© 1989 MARVEL ENT GROUP INC.

STAN LEE PRESENTS

MARVEL AGE

SALICRUP'S SECTION

Y'know, it takes guts to raise the price of a mag 50% yet keep the "only" in front of the new price. Well, believe it or not, in these post-economic-recovery times some things have to give and unfortunately our 50¢ price was one of those things. Luckily, we were able to avoid raising our price to $1.00 by accepting a page of advertising. You'll find the MARVEL AGE SHOPPER on our inside back cover. We still believe we offer value for the money, and we're constantly looking for ways to serve you better—let us know if you have any suggestions.

Recently we asked in our Letters Page if you had any criticisms concerning MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE (and believe us, that took guts, too!) and we're truly stunned by the flood of letters you sent telling us to stay just the way we are. Believe me it was greatly appreciated. MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE is a favorite target of some of Marvel's critics, accusing us of being nothing more than a bunch of ads. If that were truly the case, we doubt if we'd still be around. Of course, whenever others try to imitate MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, their cynical efforts never seem to last more than two issues at best. We believe MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE succeeds because we listen to you. We give you what you want month after month while always trying to improve our humble little magazine. We owe our success completely to you, and we thank you.

On a lighter topic, we've been meaning to plug the MARVEL ZOMBIE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER for some time, but we never seem to get around to it. Well, now's that time! MZSN is a fun little fanzine produced by **Robert Hough** (president/editor), **Rob Northrup** (vice president), and **Charles S. Novinskie** (assistant editor and letter writer extraordinaire!). They run reviews, columns and basically have a lot of fun discussing our favorite comics company. For more information send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to **Robert Hough**, 23 Corine Circle, Little Rock, AR 72205 and tell 'em the Supreme Marvel Zombie himself sent you! (Now if that doesn't get me a free subscription I don't know what will!)

So until next month, this is your adjusted-for-inflation editor wishing you good luck and good fortune—you'll need it at these prices!

—Jim Salicrup

MARVEL® AGENDA

Coming Attractions	1
Newswatch	8
Mark's Remarks	9
Mutant Report	10
Hembeck	16
Stan's Soapbox	18
Trivia Quiz	19
LIEUTENANT BLUEBERRY	20
NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET	22
POLICE ACADEMY	25
Marvel Age of Comics 1979 (Part IV)	27
Letters	30

Tom DeFalco
Editor in Chief
Mark Gruenwald
Executive Editor
Ralph Macchio
Senior Editor

Jim Salicrup
Supreme Marvel Zombie
Dwight Jon Zimmerman
Managing Editor

Cindy Emmert Kruhm
Designer

Sholly Fisch
Contributing Editor

Fred Hembeck
Sage of Marvel Age

Craig Anderson
Steve Buccellato
Bob Budiansky
Bobbie Chase
Daniel Chichester
Margaret Clark
Kelly Corvese
Don Daley
James DiGiovanna™
EDelMAn, DAryL
Archie Goodwin
Larry Hama
Bob Harras
Glenn Herdling
Sid Jacobson
Consulting Editors

Marie Javins
Terry Kavanagh
Howard Mackie
Dwayne McDuffie
Marc McLaurin
Al Milgrom
Carl Potts
Mike Rockwitz
Marc Siry
Lisa Trusiani
Sara Tuchinsky
Renée Witterstaeter
David Wohl
Gregory Wright

John Romita
Art Director
Don Perlin
Managing Art Director
James Brock, Jr.
Gavin Curtis
Vince Mielcarek
The Raiders

Virginia Romita
Traffic/Production Manager
Len Kaminski
Assistant Traffic/Production Manager
Lynda Strunk
Typesetter
Jack Abel
World's Toughest Proofreader

Joe Albelo
Paul Becton
Harry Candelario
Rob Carosella
Harry Eisenstein
Chris "Spike" Ellopoulos
Vince Evans
Dawn Geiger
Jesus Gonzalez
Brad K. Joyce
Ed Lazellari
Ken Lopez
Jade Moede
Joyce Phua
George Roberts
Production

Howard Chaykin
Cover Artist

Gregory Wright
Colorist

Adam Blaustein
Manufacturing Coordinator

Don Alcindor
Christine Aurilia
Dwight Coye
Dan Cuddy
Suzanne Gaffney
Arthur Parris Jackson
John Lewandowski
George Roussos
Stu Schwartzberg
Mark Silverman
Evan Skolnick
Friendly Assistance

Carol Kalish
Vice-President/Direct Sales
Kurt Busiek
Direct Sales Project Manager
Lou Bank
Direct Sales Manager/Customer Service
Ann Eagan
West Coast Sales Rep
Mike Ruffino
Administrative Assistant

Steve Saffel
Promotion Manager

Fabian Nicieza
Advertising Manager

Irving Forbush
Cutup

MARVEL AGE® Vol. 1, No. 79, October, 1989. (ISSN #8750-4367) Published by MARVEL COMICS, James E. Galton, President; Stan Lee, Publisher; Michael Hobson, Group Vice President. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly.

Copyright © 1989 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

Price 75¢ per copy in the U.S. and Canada. Subscription rate $9.00 for 12 issues. Canada and foreign, $11.00. Printed in the U.S.A. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL AGE (including all MARVEL titles and prominent MARVEL characters featured in the issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof), are trademarks of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO MARVEL AGE, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.**

A **Limited Series** is a title which will only run for a specific number of issues.
A **Graphic Novel** is an 8½" x 11" paperback edition.
A **Trade Paperback** is a 7" x 10" paperback edition.
A **Graphic Album** is a 6⅝" x 10" high-quality, square-bound edition.
A **Direct Sales** title is available only at selected outlets.
Shipping date refers to when the comics leave the printer.

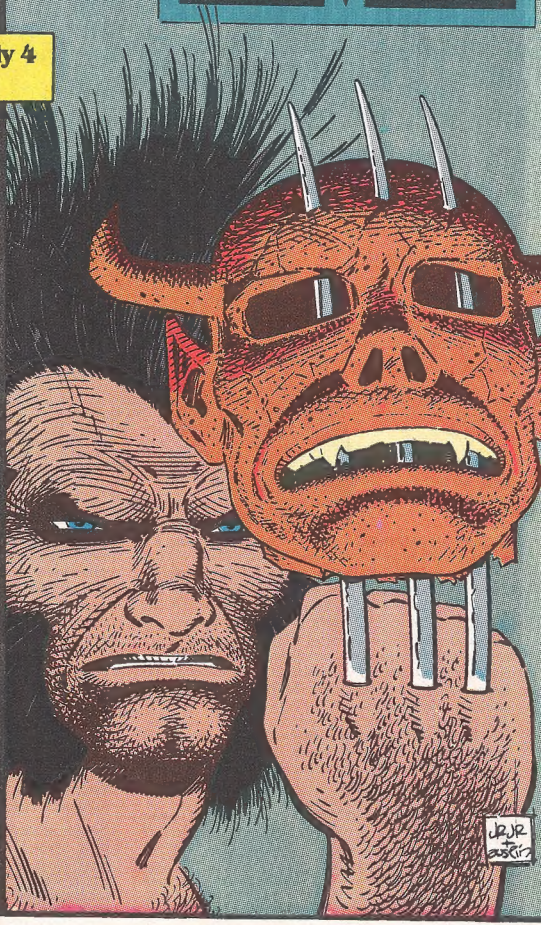
MARVEL® COMING ATTRACTIONS

Titles Shipping July 4
On Sale July 25

■ **DAREDEVIL** #272 – **Daredevil** – a loner no more! Who'd have the guts to team up with him? We ain't tellin'! But we will tell you who they have to fight... **Shotgun!** And we'll also say it guest stars the **Inhumans!** Written by **Ann Nocenti**, penciled by **John Romita Jr.**, and inked by **Al Williamson.** $1.00.

■ **AVENGERS WEST COAST** #50 – In 1939 he debuted. Now, fifty years later, the *original* **Human Torch** is back! It's an anniversary milestone you'll treasure forever! Written and penciled by **John Byrne** and inked by **Mike Machlan.** $1.00.

■ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #323 – The biweekly "Assassin Nation Plot" takes a fast-paced terrorist turn! The C.I.A. has assassinated the Prime Minister of Symkaria – at least that's what everybody thinks. Can **Captain America** defuse the tense situation and prove that the group ULTIMATUM and not the U.S. did it? Even with Spidey and **Silver Sable**'s help that may prove impossible. Especially if the free-lance anti-terrorist, **Solo,** finds the terrorists first! Written by **David Michelinie** and drawn by **Todd McFarlane.** $1.00.



☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #361 – Two serials! Biweekly! It's an action fan's dream! Think we're kidding? Check out the brutal free-for-all involving **Cap, Batroc's Brigade, Baron Zemo, Diamondback,** and the **Living Mummy** in the latest chapter of the globe-spanning BLOODSTONE HUNT saga! Written by **Mark Gruenwald,** penciled by **Kieron Dwyer,** and inked by **Al Milgrom.** And wait'll you see the action-packed surprise in store for you in the latest chapter of the *USAGENT* VERSUS SCOURGE serial written by **Mark Gruenwald,** penciled by **Mark Bright,** and inked by **Al Milgrom.** $1.00.

☐ **G.I. JOE SPECIAL MISSIONS** #27 – The **Joes** go on a "Mexican Holiday" and it's everything *but* a vacation! Written by **Michael Fleisher,** penciled by **Javier Saltares,** and inked by **José Marzan.** $1.00.

☐ **INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE Limited Series** #3 – Who will get the Holy Grail, **Indy** or the Nazis? The answer to that question could decide whether **Indy's** father lives or dies! Chapter three of the four-part adaptation of the blockbuster movie is written by **David Michelinie** and drawn by **Bret Blevins.** New cover by **Bret Blevins.** Biweekly. $1.00.

☐ **THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #251 – Marvel's premier mutant book is biweekly, and it's got a tale that's a shocker! **Wolverine's** healing factor is crippled, his fellow **X-Men** have all fallen. If he's to survive the battle against his deadliest enemies, the **Cyborg Reavers,** he must trust the novice mutant, **Jubilee!** Written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **Marc Silvestri,** and inked by **Dan Green.** $1.00.

☐ **CONAN THE KING** #55 – In the final issue of the series, the wizard **Thoth Amon's** plans to destroy **King Conan** reach their critical stage! Can the barbarian king of Aquilonia survive the ultimate assault by Hyboria's greatest sorcerer? Written by **Jim Owsley** and drawn by **Geof Isherwood.** Plus: The war between **Prince Conn** and **Tsinje** ends – but who survives? Written by **Adam Blaustein,** penciled by **Dale Eaglesham,** and inked by **Pat Redding.** 48 pages. $1.50.

☐ **THE SENSATIONAL SHE-HULK** #7 – **Xemnu's** raising a ruckus at the space station. So what else is new? Well, unless the **She-Hulk** can figure out a way to stop him, she's going to lose her only ticket back to Earth! Written and penciled by **John Byrne** and inked by **Bob Wiacek.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **AVENGERS WEST COAST ANNUAL** #4 – Chapter XI of the crossover "Atlantis Attacks" saga! **Storm, Dagger, Marvel Girl, She-Hulk,** the **Scarlet Witch,** the **Invisible Woman,** and **Andromeda** are the Brides of Set. Now **Ghaur** can construct the ultimate object of power – the Serpent Crown! Written and penciled by **John Byrne** and inked by **Terry Austin.** 64 pages. $2.00.

☐ **NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET** #1 – The horror movie series that had you on the edge of your seat in terror is now a Marvel Comics series! **Freddy Krueger's** got a new enemy. Her name is **Dr. Juliann Quinn** and *you'll* have problems going to sleep when you see how she forces patients in her sleep clinic to hunt down **Freddy!** Plus: a frightening tale of **Freddy's** life...before he "died." Written by **Steve Gerber,** penciled by **Rich Buckler** and inked by **Alfredo Alcala.** Cover painting by **Joe Jusko.** 48 pages. A Marvel black and white magazine, $2.25.

☐ **THE PUNISHER MAGAZINE** #2 – Re-presenting the searing first issue of the acclaimed PUNISHER Limited Series! "Circle of Blood Chapter One" is written by **Steven Grant,** penciled by **Mike Zeck,** and inked by **John Beatty.** Plus: pinups by **Mark Texeira** and **Mike Zeck.** Cover painting by **Steve Rude.** 48 pages. A Marvel black and white magazine. $2.25.

☐ **WOLVERINE SAGA Limited Series** #3 – The official biography of the most popular **X-Man** continues. And because it contains his adventures in the X-MEN, the WOLVERINE AND KITTY PRYDE Limited Series, and more, it's the reference volume that you must not miss! Written by **Peter Sanderson.** A Marvel Graphic Album. 48 pages. $3.95.

Titles Shipping July 11
On Sale August 1

☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN** #56 – The skinheads are running riot at Empire State University. **Spider-Man** clashes with the **Rocket Racer** to avert a crisis on the campus! Written by **Gerry Conway,** penciled by **Alex Saviuk,** and inked by **Keith Williams.** $1.00.

☐ **ALF** #21 – The comic scoops the TV show! That's right, if you want to be the first on your block to see what the new **Tanner** baby looks like – and what kind of babysitter **ALF** is – you must not miss "The Babysitter!" Written by **Michael Gallagher,** penciled by **Dave Manak,** and inked by **Marie Severin.** $1.00.

☐ **AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT** #24 – Two tales of solo **Avengers** in action!

You'd think having **Razorfist** and his friends out to kill him would be enough trouble for **Hawkeye.** Now things are about to get worse – because someone's put a bounty on his arm! Written by **Howard Mackie,** penciled by **Al Milgrom,** and inked by **Don Heck.**

The astonishing origin of **Firebird** is revealed! It's an event that brings together almost every alien race in the Marvel Universe! Written by **Fabian Nicieza,** penciled by **Gavin Curtis,** and inked by **Kim DeMulder.** $1.00.

☐ **GROO THE WANDERER** #57 – Yo ho ho! **Errol Flynn** beware! Seafaring **Groo** and **Rufferto** are about to give a whole new (and disastrous) meaning to high-seas adventure! Written and drawn by **Sergio Aragones** with pumping and bailing by **Mark Evanier.** An Epic comic. $1.00.

☐ **HEATHCLIFF** #39 – *Mayor* **Heathcliff?!** Yep, that's what happens when **Heathcliff** runs for mayor of Westfinster. He wins! And the cat-astrophic policies coming from City Hall spell trouble for the town and an outrageously good time for you! Written and penciled by **Angelo Decesare** and inked by **Jacqueline Roettcher.** $1.00.

☐ **NTH MAN** #4 – A scream in the present jolts the **Nth Man** back in time – literally! Suddenly he's back in the orphanage where he and **Alfie** grew up...back to another scream that he'll never forget. Warning: the time travel in this issue is so fast and furious, it'll make you woozy! Written by **Larry Hama,** penciled by **Ron Wagner,** and inked by **Fred Fredericks.** $1.00.

☐ **THE NEW MUTANTS** #81 – What if the prince of your dreams turned out to be a nightmare? For **Amara,** that's exactly what she faces – for the prince she's being forced to marry is a vampire! Will the **New Mutants** be able to rescue her from an undead fate worse than death? Written by **Louise Simonson,** penciled by **Bret Blevins,** and inked by **Al Williamson.** $1.00.

☐ **QUASAR** #2 – **Quasar** journeys to the planet Uranus and learns the awesome origin of his wristbands and why he must become the next **Protector of the Universe!** Written by **Mark Gruenwald,** penciled by **Paul Ryan,** and inked by **Danny Bulanadi.** $1.00.

☐ **GROO CHRONICLES** #5 – The classic tales of the world's klutziest barbarian continue! And if the idea of seeing rare early adventures of **Groo** isn't enough to excite you, this issue also features new story pages and a new cover. Written and drawn by **Sergio Aragones.** Archived by **Mark Evanier** and recolored by **Tom Luth.** An Epic Graphic Album. 48 pages. $3.95.

☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT** #76 – There's a new super hero team sanctioned by the Canadian government – **Gamma Flight!** But will they be a match for the **Sorcerer** and his marauding **Sorcerer's Apprentices?** They'd better be, because **Alpha Flight's** been forbidden to operate in Canada! Written by **James D. Hudnall,** penciled by **John Calimee,** and inked by **Mike Manley.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **WOLVERINE** #15 – The biweekly action continues with "The Gehenna Stone" Part V! If **Wolverine** and his friends cannot stop the followers of **Ba'al** from assembling the Gehenna Stone, **Ba'al** will return to Earth – and Mankind will be doomed! Written by **Peter David,** penciled by **John Buscema,** and inked by **Bill Sienkiewicz.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **G.I. JOE EUROPEAN MISSIONS** #14 – **Cobra** steals a new computer defense system. To get the system back, **G.I. Joe** first has to find out how to defeat it! Written by **Simon Furman,** penciled by **Robin Smith,** and inked by **Cam Smith.** A Marvel U.K. comic. Direct sales only. $1.75.

☐ **THE MARVEL UNIVERSE UPDATE Limited Series** #5 – From **Paladin** through **Stiltman,** the latest biographical info – and that includes weapons, vehicles, homes, and costumes – of your favorite heroes and villains. Written by **Peter Sanderson,** penciled by **June Brigman, Todd McFarlane, Jon Bogdanove, Marc Silvestri, Jackson Guice, Alan Davis, Jim Lee,** and more, and inked by **Joe Rubinstein.** 48 pages. Direct sales only. $1.50.

☐ **THE SCORPIO CONNECTION** Graphic Novel – **Wolverine** and **Nick Fury** become uneasy allies in an international manhunt to find and stop the new **Scorpio**! What is the secret relationship between **Fury** and the new **Scorpio**? All we dare say here is that **Nick** wants to bring **Scorpio** in alive...and **Wolverine** wants him *dead*! Written by **Archie Goodwin** and drawn by **Howard Chaykin.** A Marvel hardcover. 64 pages. For Mature Readers. $16.95.

☐ **THOR ANNUAL** #14 – It's the penultimate chapter in the crossover "Atlantis Attacks" epic – and it's a blockbuster! **Thor** and **Odin** fight to stop the second coming of **Set**! Where are the **Avengers,** the **X-Men, X-Factor, Spider-Man** and all the other super heroes? They're – no, if we told you now, we'd spoil one of the biggest climaxes in the Marvel Universe! Written by **Roy Thomas** and penciled by **Al Milgrom**! 64 pages. $2.00.

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #32 – The fortnightly anthology action continues with four new stories!

EXCALIBUR Part II – A murderous Loonie Toon **Shadow Cat** stalks **Shadowcat**! Written by **Mike Higgins,** penciled by **Erik Larsen,** and inked by **Al Gordon.**

PANTHER'S QUEST Part XX – The **Black Panther** is locked in a battle to the death against **Strike**! Written by **Don McGregor,** penciled by **Gene Colan,** and inked by **Tom Palmer.**

COLDBLOOD Part VII – **Mako** demonstrates his cyborg soldiers to potential clients. Then **Coldblood** comes in to wreck the demonstration! Written by **Doug Moench** and drawn by **Paul Gulacy.**

Plus complete in this issue: **Sunfire** takes on the annihilating **Deadline!** Written by **Scott Lobdell,** penciled by **Don Heck,** and inked by **Dave Cockrum.** 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN** #165 – A young prince left in **Conan**'s protection is brutally murdered. And not even overwhelming opposition will stop a blood-mad **Conan** from delivering an even more brutal revenge! "City of Rats" is written by **Chuck Dixon** and drawn by **Gary Kwapisz.** Plus: **King Kull** and his men ride into a well-laid trap. When you see how **Kull** escapes, you will understand how a barbarian such as **Kull** could become king of legendary Atlantis! "Siege" is written by **John Arcudi** and drawn by **Tony Salmons.** A Marvel black and white magazine. 64 pages. For Mature Readers. $2.25.

Titles Shipping July 18
On Sale August 8

☐ **MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE** #80 – **Goodwin** and **Byrne** on WOLVERINE – the details in the Mutant Report! **Walt Simonson** on the FANTASTIC FOUR – the scoop in the Marvel Age Interview! And an awesome article on the PUNISHER Graphic Novel! *Plus:* features on the NEUROMANCER Graphic Novel, and the astonishing **Snake Eyes** saga in G.I. JOE! And don't forget our plethora of regular features: **Stan**'s Soapbox, **Mark**'s Remarks, **Hembeck**'s Page, Marvel Trivia Quiz, Newswatch, The Marvel Age of Comics, and more! 75¢.

☐ **POLICE ACADEMY** #1 – First came the hit movie series, then the dynamite cartoon TV series, and now it's a Marvel comic! And in their first-issue adventure, **Mahoney, Hightower, Jones, Callahan, Lassard** and the gang have to stop one of the worst crime waves ever to hit the city – a crime wave launched by the **Mad Butler!** Written by **Angelo Decesare,** penciled by **Howard Post,** and inked by **Jacqueline Roettcher.** $1.00.

☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA** #362 – The climax of the biweekly serials! BLOODSTONE HUNT Part VI: It's **Captain America** against **Crossbones, Baron Zemo,** and **Batroc's Brigade!** Who will possess the Bloodstone? It's one of the greatest climaxes of the month! Written by **Mark Gruenwald** and penciled by **Kieron Dwyer.**

Plus: US*AGENT* VERSUS SCOURGE Part V: the true origin of **Scourge!** Miss this incredible tale and you'll never forgive yourself! Written by **Mark Gruenwald** and penciled by **Mark Bright.** $1.00.

☐ **THE INCREDIBLE HULK** #361 – **Hulk** and **Iron Man** against the **Maggia** and **Madame Masque!** Written by **Peter David,** penciled by **Jeff Purves,** and inked by **Marie Severin.** $1.00.

☐ **MARVEL TALES** #229 – Re-presenting from PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #18 the searing tale of friend versus friend in a battle to the death! **Stuart Clarke,** the original **Rampage,** has hypnotized **Iceman.** And not even the combined powers of **Angel** and **Spider-Man** may be enough to stop his fury! Written by **Bill Mantlo,** penciled by **Sal Buscema,** and inked by **Dave Hunt.** $1.00.

☐ **THE AVENGERS** #309 – For the gravely-wounded **Gilgamesh,** the good news is that the **Avengers** have found Olympia. The bad news is – it's about to plunge into the Negative Zone! Written by **John Byrne,** penciled by **Paul Ryan,** and inked by **Tom Palmer.** $1.00.

☐ **SHIELD** #3 – The origin of the **Death's Head Commandos! Nick** and **Val** attempt to rescue **Kate Neville,** and instead become victims of a foe who can manipulate their minds! Written by **Bob Harras,** penciled by **Keith Pollard,** and inked by **Kim DeMulder.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **SHADOWMASTERS Limited Series** #2—Years have passed since the last **Shadowmaster** fought the sinister **Sunrise Society.** Now the **Society** has discovered the **Shadowmasters'** secret home, and they plan a revenge-filled surprise attack on the **Shadowmaster** who is the last true ninja! "Invisible Enemies" is written by **Carl Potts,** penciled by **Dan Lawlis,** and inked by **Tod Smith.** A Marvel Graphic Album. 48 pages. $3.95.

☐ **INDIANA JONES AND THE LAST CRUSADE Limited Series** #4 – It's the stunning conclusion to the comic book adaptation of the hit movie! Written by **David Michelinie,** penciled and new cover by **Bret Blevins,** and inked by **Al Williamson.** Biweekly $1.00.

☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN** #224 – **Conan** is thrust into the middle of a haunting tale of cannibalism and deceit when he and his companions fight against the relentless forces of nature determined to consume them. Written by **Larry Hama** and drawn by **Geoff Senior.** $1.00.

☐ **THE PUNISHER** #25 – It's a special giant-sized issue and we can only begin to *hint* at the action awaiting you! The **Punisher** and the **Shadowmasters** square off against ninjas and the woman more lethal than an atomic bomb – **Iris Green**! Written by **Mike Baron,** penciled by **Eric Larsen,** and inked by **Al Williamson.** $1.50.

☐ **SILVER SURFER** #29 – The **Kree** have created the ultimate anti-**Silver Surfer** weapon. And wait'll you see who he is! Not only that, but the **Kree** launch an all-out attack on the **Skrulls'** home planet! Written by **Steve Englehart,** penciled by **Ron Lim,** and inked by **Tom Christopher.** $1.00.

☐ **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #324 – In Symkaria, **Captain America** and **Silver Sable** confront **Sabretooth,** the true assassin of Symkaria's Prime Minister. Meanwhile, in the United States, **Spidey** and **Solo** track down the current ULTIMATUM big-wig. And on top of that, diplomatic relations between Symkaria and the U.S. have not only broken off, Symkaria's sending death squads after U.S. politicians! Written by **David Michelinie** and drawn by **Todd McFarlane.** Biweekly. $1.00.

☐ **THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #252 – The true fate of **Storm**! The final fate of **Wolverine**! And the cataclysmic future of **Jubilee**! Written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **Mark Silvestri,** and inked by **Dan Green.** Biweekly. $1.00.

☐ **EXCALIBUR** #14 – **Excalibur** thinks their inter-dimensional planet-hopping is for the birds! They want to get back to Earth in the worst way. But though the planet they've reached *looks* like the Earth they know and love, the super heroes on it, such as **Wolverine,** the **Punisher, Cyclops,** and all the others, are radically different! Written by **Chris Claremont,** penciled by **Alan Davis,** and inked by **Paul Neary.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **WHAT IF...?** #5 – Not one, but *two* tales of alternate realities are presented as "What If...Wonder Man Hadn't Died?" and "What If...the Vision Had Destroyed the Avengers?" Written and penciled by **Jim Valentino** and inked by **Sam De la Rosa.** 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **POWER PACK** #50 – Talk about special celebration issues – here's a doozy! The fabulous smartship **Friday** is back! But it looks like it's going to die! The **Power** kids return to Kymellia to help their greatest friend at his hour of need! But what consequences await them in their odyssey? Written by **Jon Bogdanove,** penciled by **Tod Smith,** and inked by **Mike Manley.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.95.

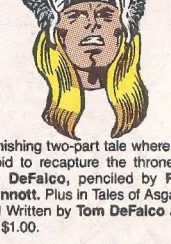
☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL** #22 – It's the blockbuster conclusion of the "Atlantis Attacks" epic! **Llyra, Ghaur,** and **Attuma** are at the height of their power! Will **Set** finally seize control of the Earth? What can the **Fantastic Four** and the **Sub-Mariner** possibly do to shatter the Serpent Crown and stop **Set**'s rule? Written by **Roy Thomas,** penciled by **Ron Frenz,** and inked by **Joe Sinnott.** 64 pages. $2.00.

☐ **G.I. JOE** #92 – **G.I. Joe** faces the most dangerous **Cobra** threat yet – the **Cobra Condor!** Written by **Larry Hama,** penciled by **Mark Bright,** and inked by **Randy Emberlin.** $1.00.

Titles Shipping July 25
On Sale August 15

☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR** #332 – The rogue **Watcher** and the **Frightful Four** have the **Fantastic Four** exactly where they want them! Unless the **Fantastic Four** can counterattack fast – they're dead! Written by **Steve Englehart,** penciled by **Rich Buckler,** and inked by **Romeo Tanghal.** $1.00.

☐ **IRON MAN** #248 – Has **Tony Stark** become a mental as well as a physical cripple? Will his dependency on his armor prove to be an unbreakable prison? **Tony Stark** must confront one of the most traumatic crises in his life – and his choice will forever change it! Written by **David Michelinie** and drawn by **Bob Layton.** $1.00.



☐ **THOR** #409 – **Doctor Doom** steals **Thor's** hammer! It's the first part of an astonishing two-part tale where **Dr. Doom** makes an all-out bid to recapture the throne of Latveria! Written by **Tom DeFalco,** penciled by **Ron Frenz,** and inked by **Joe Sinnott.** Plus in Tales of Asgard: the trolls are on the march! Written by **Tom DeFalco** and penciled by **Mike Mignola.** $1.00.

☐ **COUNT DUCKULA** #9 – In his quest to be a celebrity, the vegetarian vampire duck travels to Gnashville, U.S.A. and its famous Grand Old Opry, only to find it haunted by the **Phantom of the Paris Opera!** Written by **Michael Gallagher** and drawn by **Warren Kremer.** $1.00.

☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN** #156—**Spider-Man** searches the Susquehanna River valley for any trace of **Joe Robertson.** Unfortunately, **Spidey's** a super-powered city slicker out of his element. And **Spidey** discovers how dangerous that can be when he's ambushed by the mutant called **Banjo!** Written by **Gerry Conway** and drawn by **Sal Buscema.** $1.00.

☐ **THE TRANSFORMERS** #58 – **Megatron** has achieved overwhelming power! Can all the **Autobots** defeat him now? Written by **Simon Furman** and penciled by **Jose Delbo.** $1.00.

☐ **X-FACTOR** #46 – **Cyclops** makes a do-or-die attempt to rescue his son and **Marvel Girl** from the alien underground. And the **Celestials** make their mysterious move in the final judgment of the planet! Written by **Louise Simonson,** penciled by **Paul Smith,** and inked by **Al Milgrom.** $1.00.

☐ **THE 'NAM** #36 – While politicians squabble about the shape of the table at the Paris Peace Talks, men continue to die in war-torn Vietnam, and racial tension explodes into violent conflict among the men of the 23rd! Written by **Doug Murray,** penciled by **Wayne Vansant,** and inked by **Geof Isherwood.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct Sales only. $1.50.

☐ **MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS** #33 – The fortnightly anthology adventures hit high gear!

EXCALIBUR Part III – **Captain Britain** fights...**Captain Britain** *and* **Captain Britain!** Will the nightmares never end? Written by **Mike Higgins,** penciled by **Erik Larsen,** and inked by **Al Gordon.**

BLACK PANTHER Part XXI – The **Black Panther's** only means of escape out of South Africa is discovered! Wait'll you see what he does to get out now! Written by **Don McGregor,** penciled by **Gene Colan,** and inked by **Tom Palmer.**

COLDBLOOD Part VIII – **Coldblood** takes on **Mako's** robotic armies in a do-or-die effort to rescue **Gina!** Written by **Doug Moench** and drawn by **Paul Gulacy.**

Plus complete in this issue: **Captain America** finds himself caught in the middle of a 40-year vendetta between the **Thin Man** and **Agent Axis!** Written by **Sholly Fisch** and drawn by **Jack Sparling.** 32 pages. $1.25.

☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE** #9 – Two tales of the Master of the Mystic Arts in one comic!

In a special NOW magazine feature, **Morgana Blessing** recounts the life of **Dr. Strange!** Written by **Roy Thomas,** penciled by **Jackson Guice,** and inked by **Jose Marzan Jr.** Plus in Tales of the Vishanti, the opening chapter of a suspense-filled five-part tale detailing the background of vampires and the Darkhold Book! Written by **Roy Thomas** and drawn by **Dan Day.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **MOON KNIGHT** #6 – Whatever happened to **Brother Voodoo?** The answer at last! Written by **Charles Dixon,** penciled by **Sal Velluto,** and inked by **Mark Farmer.** 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. $1.50.

☐ **DEATH'S HEAD** #9 – The **Fantastic Four** are locked outside their building and are fighting a losing battle against their building's defense systems. To break in and turn off the system they need real help. And they get it – from **Death's Head!** Written by **Simon Furman** and drawn by **Geoff Senior.** Cover by **Walt Simonson.** A Marvel U.K. comic. Direct sales only. $1.75.

☐ **AKIRA** #12 – As rioting sweeps Neo-Tokyo, religious cult leader **Lady Miyako,** dispatches the psychic-powered ninja girl, **Sakaki,** to kidnap **Akira** from **Kay** and **Kaneda.** Meanwhile, secret resistance boss **Nezu,** while pretending to serve **Lady Miyako's** cult and the resistance, plots to gain control of **Akira** for his own ends. Written and drawn by **Katsuhiro Otomo,** English language translation by **Jo Duffy,** and computer generated colors by **Steve Oliff.** An Epic Graphic Album. 64 pages. Direct sales only. $3.95.

☐ **BLUEBERRY 1: CHIHUAHUA PEARL** Graphic Novel fans all over the world have acclaimed the **Lieutenant Blueberry** series as the greatest Western saga in comics! It's written by **Jean-Michel Charlier** and drawn by **Jean Giraud** – a.k.a. **Moebius!** And now here's your chance to get in on the excitement! Someone has taken a half million dollars in Confederate gold and hidden it in Mexico. **President Grant** wants that gold returned. And the man he's selected for the dangerous secret mission is U.S. Cavalry **Lieutenant Mike Blueberry.** 96 pages. Direct sales only. $12.95.

☐ **ELEKTRA SAGA** Trade Paperback – The stunning ELEKTRA SAGA four-issue limited series is now collected into one knock-out volume! Written, penciled, and new cover by **Frank Miller.** Inked by **Klaus Janson.** 192 pages. Direct sales only. $16.95.

CLASSIC X-MEN #39 – Re-presenting from X-MEN #133, chapter five in the "Dark Phoenix" saga. "Wolverine Alone" is co-plotted and written by **Chris Claremont**, co-plotted and penciled by **John Byrne**, and inked by **Terry Austin**. Plus: an all-new story written by **Ann Nocenti** and drawn by **John Bolton**. 32 pages. $1.25.

WOLVERINE #16 – It's the final chapter of the Gehenna Stone saga! **Ba'al** unleashes his hordes! How can **Wolverine** defeat a foe that is the ultimate embodiment of savage evil? Written by **Peter David**, penciled by **John Buscema**, and inked by **Bill Sienkiewicz**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

THE PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #10 – If you like your action heavy on the "tech" side – this story's for you! The **Punisher** takes on the **Sniper** in a duel that features state-of-the-art weapons ranging from personal gear to tanks and helicopters! Written by **Carl Potts** and penciled by **Jim Lee**. 32 pages. Mando Offset paper. Direct sales only. $1.50.

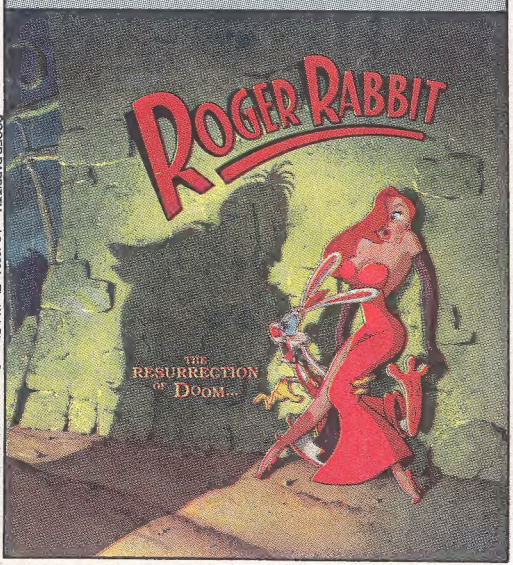
CONAN SAGA #30 – Re-presenting from SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #18 part three of the four-part epic "Battle of the Towers," written by **Roy Thomas**, penciled by **John Buscema**, and inked by **Alfredo Alcala**. Plus: from SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #19, "The Castle of the Devil," written by **Don Glut**, penciled by **Alan Kupperberg**, and inked by **Sonny Trinidad**, and from SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #8, "The Forever Phial," written by **Roy Thomas** and drawn by **Tim Conrad**. A Marvel black and white magazine. For Mature Readers. $2.25.

SUPER-VILLAIN® CHECKLIST

Agent Axis – MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #33
Aron – FANTASTIC FOUR #332
Attuma – AVENGERS WEST COAST ANNUAL #4, FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #22, THOR ANNUAL #14
Ba'al – WOLVERINE #15 and 16
Baron Zemo – CAPTAIN AMERICA #361 and 362
Batroc's Brigade – CAPTAIN AMERICA #361 and 362
Blastaar – THE AVENGERS #304
Bobcat – AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT #24
Brothers Grimm – AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT #24
Bull's Eye – ELEKTRA SAGA
Corruptor – MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #32
Crossbones – CAPTAIN AMERICA #361 and 362
Deadline – MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #32
Death's Head Commandos – NICK FURY AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D. #3
Deathurge – QUASAR #2
Doctor Doom – THOR #409
Electro – SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #156
Frightful Four – FANTASTIC FOUR #332
Ghaur – AVENGERS WEST COAST ANNUAL #4, FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #22, THOR ANNUAL #14
The Hand – ELEKTRA SAGA
Hellfire Club – CLASSIC X-MEN #39
Kingpin – ELEKTRA SAGA
Kristoff – THOR #409
Llyra – AVENGERS WEST COAST ANNUAL #4, FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #22, THOR ANNUAL #14
Madame Masque – INCREDIBLE HULK #361
Mad Dog – AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT #24
Maggia – INCREDIBLE HULK #361
Mako – MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #32 and 33
Rampage – MARVEL TALES #229
Razorfist – AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT #24
Sabretooth – AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #324
Scorpio – THE SCORPION CONNECTION
Scourge – CAPTAIN AMERICA #361 and 362
Set – AVENGERS WEST COAST ANNUAL #4, FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #22, THOR ANNUAL #14
Shocker – SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #156
Shotgun – DAREDEVIL #272
Snarks – POWER PACK #50
Sniper – PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #10
Sorcerer – ALPHA FLIGHT #76
Sorcerer's Apprentices – ALPHA FLIGHT #76
Tombstone – SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #156
ULTIMATUM – AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #323 and 324
Ultron – WHAT IF...? #5
Xemnu – SENSATIONAL SHE-HULK #7
Zombies – MOON KNIGHT #6

NEWSWATCH

TIPS ON TOPS, TOONS, TINY TOTEMS, AND OTHER TANTALIZING TOPICS



ROGER RABBIT TM and © 1989 by The Walt Disney Company and Amblin Entertainment, Inc.

ITEM: If you're one of the many who've been breathlessly awaiting the release of WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT? on videocassette, well, you can catch your breath; it'll be on sale soon. But if you've been hoping for all-new adventures featuring **Roger** and his pals, you might want to keep an eye out for the new Roger Rabbit cartoon (debuting this Summer in theaters nationwide) and...(you knew something like this had to be coming, didn't you?) the all-new, ROGER RABBIT; THE RESURRECTION OF DOOM Graphic Novel!

The Graphic Novel is the work of **Bob Foster** and **Dan Spiegle**, and it shows what happens when Maroon Cartoon Studios switches to cheaper animation, throwing Roger and **Jessica** out of work–and directly into the clutches of the fiendish **Judge Doom!** It's "Toons" of fun!

ITEM: What would you call "any beast who constantly reads, collects, draws, trades, and, in general, is obsessed with Marvel Comics?" Well, the folks at Talking Tops would call it a MarvelComicsaurus, and this June, it'll become the latest in their popular line of "Saurus" T-shirts. Could anyone this side of **Doctor Doom** possibly resist a friendly dinosaur poring over a stack of X-MENs and HULKs? It's hip! It's now! It's prehistoric! It's $16.50! So what are you waiting for?

ITEM: And while you've got your wallet out, you might want to check into a set of Marvel Figurines. For only $3.99 apiece, you can own this set of four plastic figurines portraying **Spider-Man, Wolverine, Captain America,** and the **Punisher** at their heroic best. And each has been designed under the watchful eye of Marvel's own art director, **John Romita Sr.,** so you can rest assured they're authentic in every detail!

Plus, for the truly discriminating collector, there's always the hand-painted, porcelain Wolverine bisque! Selling for $99.95, the bisque will be available only in a limited edition of 15,000. After that, the mold will be broken and it will never be available again. So you can act fast or risk missing out forevermore. Your decision, pal. Your choice.

ITEM: Those wedding bells are ringin' again! This past April 22, they rang for **Carl Potts** and **Cathleen Meloni,** who tied the knot before winging their way to a rain-filled honeymoon in Hawaii. Among the piles of presents was a set of chocolate gun cartridges, courtesy of our own **Glenn Herdling** and **Lou Bank.** But then, what else would you give a guy who writes PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL and edits THE PUNISHER?

ITEM: And finally, it's time to bid a tearful adieu to Epic Comics Editor **Steve Buccellatto.** Steve's tearing himself away to go freelance. And considering that he's already got penciling, inking, and coloring jobs coming up, we figure that he'll manage to keep himself occupied somehow.

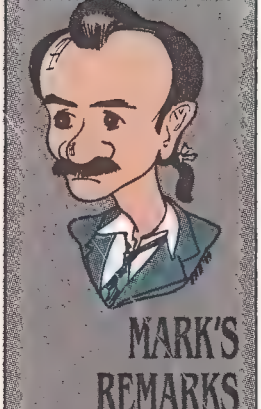
Pitching into lend a hand in Steve's absence will be **Dan Chichester**'s new assistant editor (and all-around good gal), **Sara Tuchinsky.**

But wait a minute! If Sara's going to be working with Dan, who'll do Sara's old job? Step up and meet **Evan Skoinik!** Evan will be assisting Managing Editor **Greg Wright**...not to mention evaluating the mountains of submissions that pour in each day. Welcome aboard, Evan! Hope you weren't planning on sleeping any time soon!

TOP TEN

The Top Ten's turning into a real free-for-all with the mutant books, the **Punisher** books, **She-Hulk**, and **Spidey** all jockeying for a spot on our chart. Meanwhile, MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE remains a member of the Top 30 group, coming in at #29. The Top Ten is a list of the ten best-selling Marvel titles in the Direct Sales market as compiled by our Vice-President/Direct Sales **Carol Kalish.** This month's Top Ten is for February. And here it is!

1—**THE UNCANNY X-MEN** #245
2—**PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL** #6
3—**EXCALIBUR** #9
4—**X-FACTOR** #41
5—**WOLVERINE** #8
6—**HAVOK AND WOLVERINE Limited Series** #4
7—**THE SENSATIONAL SHE-HULK** #2
8—**THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #316
9—**THE NEW MUTANTS** #76
10—**THE PUNISHER** #20
29—**MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE** #75



Time was when it was possible to do something "special" in comics. It has become exceedingly hard these days, because somewhere along the line, the extraordinary has become the commonplace.

When I first started reading comics, Marvel Comics as we know them today weren't around yet, and the only thing there was for a budding super hero fan like myself to read was books by DC. Back when dinosaurish DC ruled the newsstand and mammal-like Marvel had only begun to eke out its ecological niche, everything seemed new and special. The last meeting of the **Justice Society**, the first super hero group in the history of the medium, occurred two years before I was born, but when the **Justice League** banded together in 1960, I knew to the bottom of my 7-year-old soul that this was something incredible; a bunch of guys who had their own books appearing together in one book! And just when the novelty and specialness of a super-team had simmered down ever so slightly, they went and upped the ante by teaming the Justice League with their illustrious predecessors, the Justice Society!

DC really knew how to keep things special in those early-60s days. Events such as crossovers of heroes from one book to another which we now take as a matter of course were done with excruciating rarity. Years would pass between crossover appearances between **Flash** and **Green Lantern**, for example. And there were inscrutable principles at work, too, limiting special events. What was the secret law that permitted Green Lantern to team up with Flash, but never with his fellow space-based heroes, **Hawkman** or **Adam Strange**? I didn't know then, I don't know now. But whatever it was, DC's conservativism certainly served to keep special events at a tantalyzing minimum.

Marvel was different almost from the very start. Instead of taking a bunch of characters who had their own books and making a team out of them, Marvel did a team first—the **Fantastic Four**—and later spun off one of its members in a solo strip—the **Human Torch**. As soon as there were characters to cross over with, there were crossovers . . . some major, some mere cameos. Is it any wonder Marvel took the comics world by a storm? Here was a line of books where there were no hidden laws decreeing that certain characters could only meet certain other characters at well-spaced intervals. At Marvel, anyone could meet anyone at any time—it was a hero-fan's biggest fantasy fulfilled.

Marvel provided more truly special events than were dreamed possible by its venerable competition. The reappearance of the **Sub-Mariner**! Subby joining forces with **Doctor Doom**! The first **Thing-Hulk** fight! The Fantastic Four versus the **Avengers**! Subby finding the Atlanteans! All these epic events and more happened in just a shade over two years in just one of Marvel's titles—admittedly, Marvel's flagship title, FANTASTIC FOUR. So what am I getting at here—that Marvel overdid it? That it's Marvel's fault that "special" isn't special anymore?

Not exactly. It is the job of a good comics company (or any entertainment medium, for that matter) to provide its audience what it craves, and the company that serves the audience best ultimately wins. We all wanted (and continue to want) special events, extraordinary things, and epic-making occurrences to happen as often as possible. We didn't want the same old stuff with little variation repeated month after month. And for most of the 1960s at least, there was new ground to break in almost every direction, new trends to set right and left.

Then what happened? Well, the shock of the new wore off a bit. Their craving for the extraordinary having been nurtured, the audience's expectations have grown ever larger. Creators are constantly having to come up with bigger and bigger deals in order to surpass the past. And bigger, as we all know, doesn't necessarily mean better.

Let's look at the phenomenon of escalating scale. One of the first really big events in modern Marvel Comics was Atlantis's first invasion of Manhattan in FF ANNUAL #1. Two years later, every single Marvel hero and villain around in 1965—almost fifty of 'em — managed to get into the act during the wedding of Reed and Sue. A year later, **Galactus** came to Earth for the first time, and suddenly villainy attained a cosmic stature it had never known before. Five years after, the Earth, and three teams of super heroes, were swept up into all-out extraterrestrial spacewar for the first time, during the Kree-Skrull War. So far, so good . . . all this was new and unprecedented.

It was 1982 when our modern era of escalation began. The book was CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS, Marvel's first limited series, and in it every single hero on Earth got involved in a single story at the same time. And whereas in 1965 there were but fifty heroes and villains combined, in 1982 the heroes alone numbered in the hundreds. After a story so big that everybody meets everybody else—the ultimate crossover—how can you top it? Well, we tried to, with SECRET WARS among the most notable of the attempts, and by that time DC got into the act, too, with its universe-purging *Crisis on Infinite Earths* mini-series. The scope has gotten frighteningly high now. The first Atlantean invasion tale was told in one annual—the one going on right now takes fourteen annuals to tell. The Kree-Skrull War took nine issues of one magazine to tell—I lost count how many issues tied into last fall's Inferno.

So what's a creative person to do? There is a definite craving out there for bigger and bigger crossovers and special events. Sure, it's one some of us helped foster (hey, I was one of the co-plotters on CONTEST OF CHAMPS), but it's there nonetheless gobbling up and trying to amplify every idea in sight. You readers have begun (no fault of your own) to expect periodic Big Deal Events and Mass Crossovers. Now I'm not saying that the brain trust at Marvel isn't up to providing the public what it wants—there are any number of Big Deal Events and Mass Crossovers dying to be told—I'm just saying I'm sorry to see such a good thing get so out of control.

I have no idea what the future holds as far as special events are concerned. Personally, I hope to see a scaling down of crossovers and fewer threats to the entire universe. But it's going to be up to you readers. You're the only ones who can help us usher in a new era, an era where events no longer have to rock the cosmos and involve half the known universe to be considered "special." So tell me, is it too late to turn back?

—Mark Gruenwald

X-TRA THE MUTANT REPORT X-TRA

VOLUME 4 "THE NEXT STEP IN NEWS EVOLUTION" NUMBER 6

WOLVERINE® & NICK FURY™ STARRING IN THE SCORPIO CONNECTION™

It seems like a surefire formula for success: Take two tough, no-nonsense heroes, add a story filled with espionage and intrigue, set it in a variety of exotic locales around the world, toss in some unexpected twists and surprises, have it written and illustrated by two of the top talents in comics, and what do you get? Unless you skipped over the logo at the top of this page, you've probably guessed the answer already—you get THE SCORPIO CONNECTION, written by Archie Goodwin and illustrated by Howard Chaykin (painted in full color by Richard Ory), and starring none other than Nick Fury and Wolverine!

The 64-page, hardcover graphic novel is the brainchild of scripter Archie Goodwin, who will soon be writing WOLVERINE every month. But while Archie's obviously interested in Wolverine, he's got a soft spot for Nick Fury as well. "I've always liked Nick Fury, especially when Jim Steranko was writing and drawing his series in the '60's," Archie says. "I had to write several fill-in issues of S.H.I.E.L.D. when Steranko left, and I always felt that I never had the chance to give it my best shot. In the back of my mind, I always wanted another chance."

That chance finally came with THE SCORPIO CONNECTION. The graphic novel puts Nick and Wolverine against the mysterious menace called Scorpio. Long-time Marvelites may remember that the original Scorpio turned out to be Nick's brother Jake. But Jake's been dead for some time, and now there's a new Scorpio in town!

Who is Scorpio? What does he want? Why is he after Nick? Those are the questions Nick has to answer as he races around the world trying to track him down. But considering that Scorpio possesses the vast power of the Scorpio Key, Nick better find his answers fast!

Of course, Nick isn't alone in his search — and that could prove to be more trouble than help! When Scorpio kills one of Wolverine's friends, the adamantium-clawed mutant leaves his fellow X-Men to join Nick's hunt. But Nick and Wolverine have very different ideas about what to do with Scorpio if they catch him, and it's anyone's guess who'll reach Scorpio first!

"For the story, I needed someone who'd be a companion and a menace to drive Fury along," Archie explains. "He and Wolverine seemed like a pretty logical match. They've met before and they've both worked for intelligence. The book turns on which one will get to Scorpio first and what he'll do."

Whoever finds Scorpio first, though, one thing's for sure: Any graphic novel starring Nick Fury and Wolverine is sure to be filled with suspense, action, and more than a few twists along the way. And no one can draw action and suspense stories better than Howard Chaykin! For more than ten years now, Howard's been winning acclaim for just that sort of material, ranging from his early art on stories starring adventurer Dominic Fortune to his recent work for a variety of comics companies. So you can imagine how happy everyone was when Howard expressed an interest in THE SCORPIO CONNECTION. But, Archie jokes, "If he'd known it would take me three years to write the script after he drew it, he probably *wouldn't* have been interested!"

Why three years? "I think that anytime anyone does a graphic novel, a sense of it being very special sets in. For me, it set in spades!" Archie laughs, adding (with tongue firmly in cheek), "Fortunately, it reads as though it was written in three days!"

All kidding aside, though, SCORPIO CONNECTION Editor Greg Wright feels that investing this much time has certainly paid off. "It's been a long wait, but it's really worth it," Greg says. "It's a neat story — well worth reading."

Greg's got a high opinion of the art, too, largely because of the unusual approach Howard has taken. "From the beginning, we decided to let the color be a large part of the art," Greg recalls. Because Howard shares his studio with colorist Richard Ory, the two were able to work more closely than most artists and colorists and allowed the painted colors to tell a lot of the story. On one page, for example, a man crouches on a cliff and looks out at a village in the distance : . . only the man has been drawn in pen and ink while the distant village has been painted in! The result is a look and feel far different from most comics.

Between THE SCORPIO CONNECTION's innovative art style and its fast-paced story, it's no wonder why Greg's very happy with the way it's turned out. But when we asked him to sum up his feelings about THE SCORPIO CONNECTION, he paused, remembering that he'd let his assistant editor, Sara Tuchinsky, sum up the new S.H.I.E.L.D. regular series back in MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE #77. (Sara called S.H.I.E.L.D. "rootin' tootin', lickety-split spy action the way I like it" ... as though you could have forgotten.) Then, after a moment of thought,

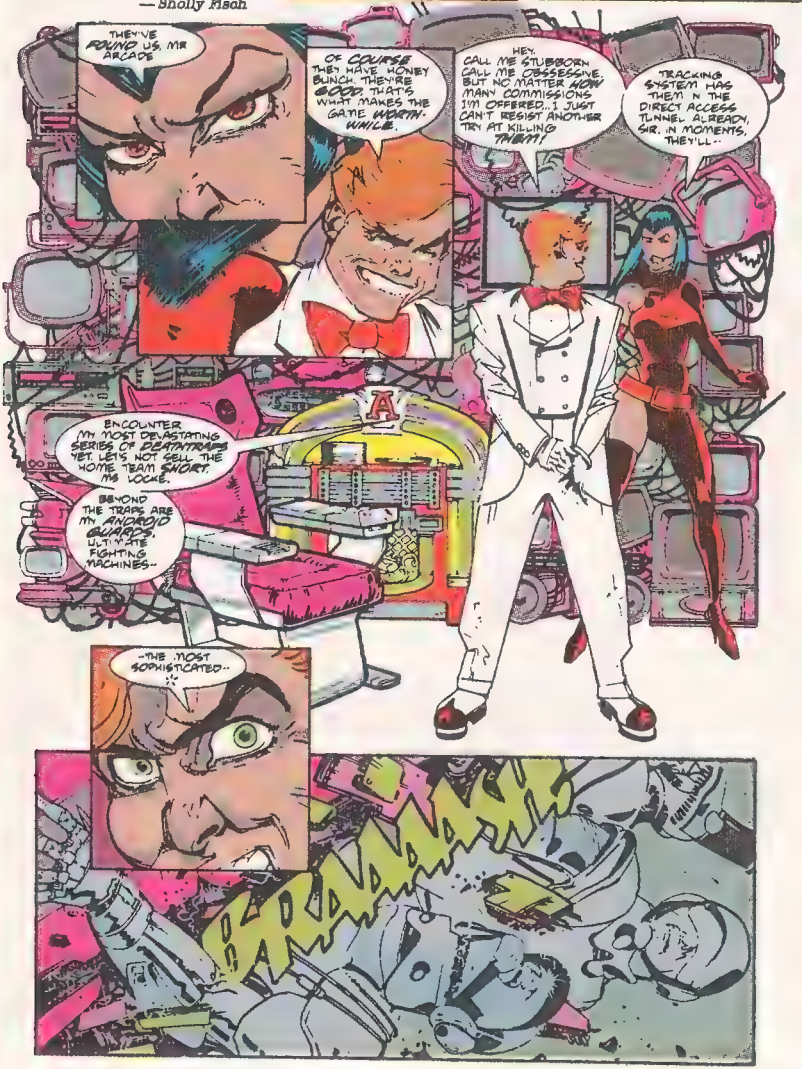
he said, "Last time, I was silly and allowed Sara to put a stupid quote in, so this time I will: 'This is one of the most surprising stories Marvel has ever done, with some stunning artwork by Howard Chaykin.'"

"Jeepers, it's keen!" Sara added.

— *Shelly Fisah*

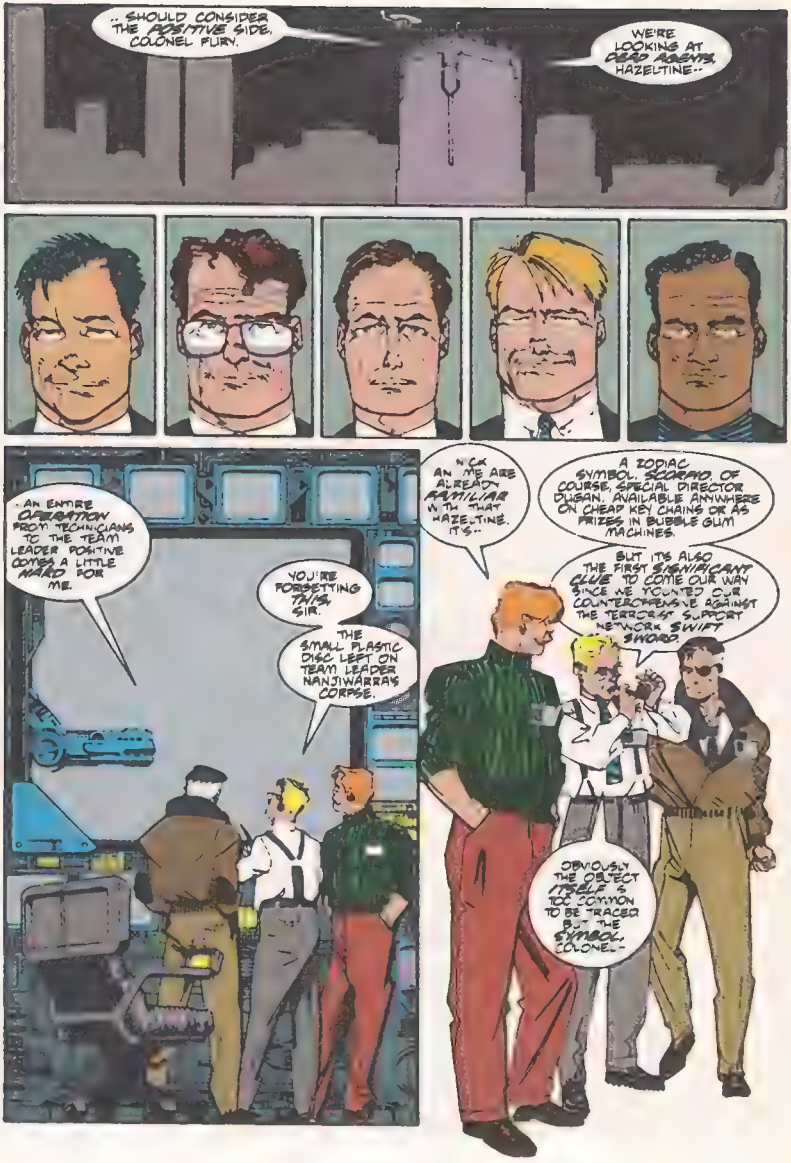
WOLVERINE™ & NICK FURY™ PREVIEW

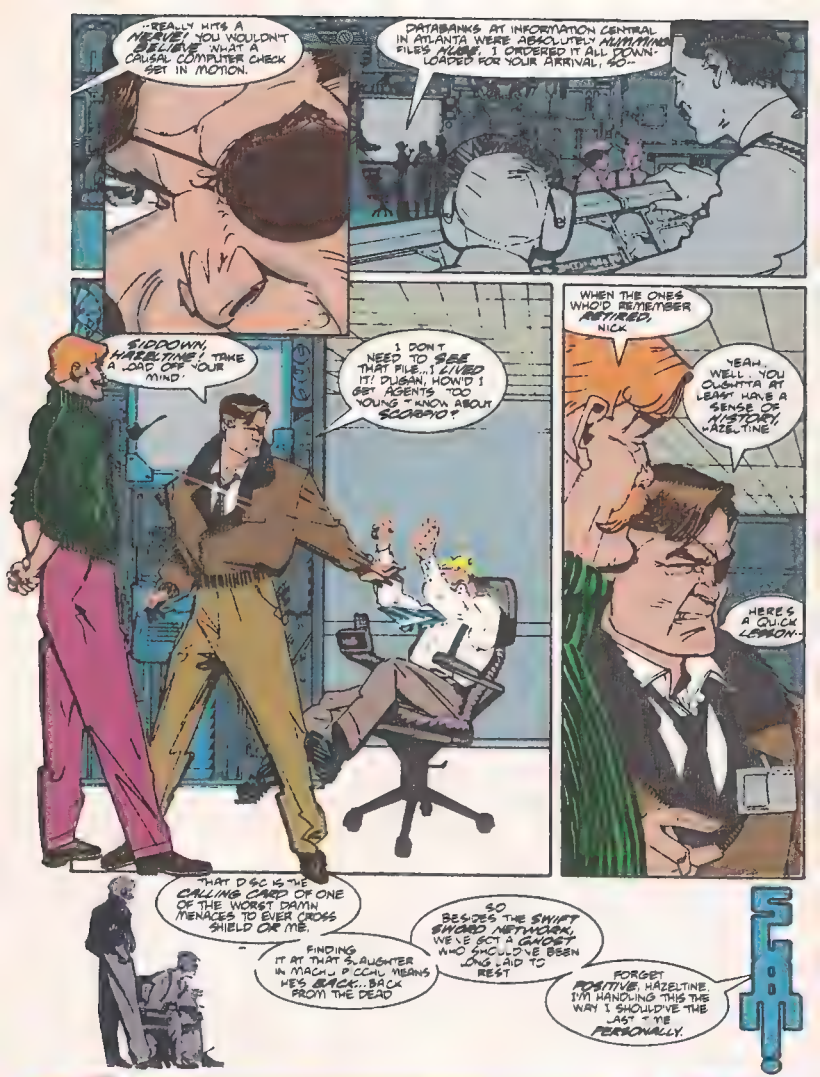
Scorpio has assassinated a S.H.I.E.L.D. anti-terrorist team in Peru. The leader of the team was Wolverine's friend, David Nanjiwarra. Wolverine and Fury are unaware of the murder. That situation is about to change.


THEY'VE FOUND US, MR ARCADE
OF COURSE THEY HAVE HONEY BUNCH. THEY'RE GOOD. THAT'S WHAT MAKES THE GAME WORTHWHILE.
HEY. CALL ME STUBBORN. CALL ME OBSESSIVE. BUT NO MATTER HOW MANY COMMISSIONS I'M OFFERED... I JUST CAN'T RESIST ANOTHER TRY AT KILLING THEM!
TRACKING SYSTEM HAS THEM IN THE DIRECT ACCESS TUNNEL. ALREADY, SIR. IN MOMENTS, THEY'LL..
ENCOUNTER MY MOST DEVASTATING SERIES OF DEATHTRAPS YET. LET'S NOT SELL THE HOME TEAM SHORT, MS. LOCKE.
BEYOND THE TRAPS ARE MY ANDROID GUARDS. ULTIMATE FIGHTING MACHINES...
-THE MOST SOPHISTICATED--
A

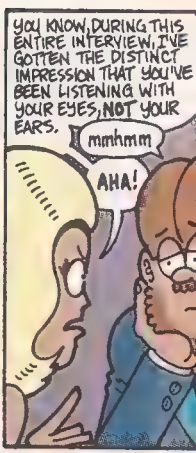
WELL, SO MUCH FOR SOPHISTICATION.
YOU'RE EXCUSED, MS. LOCKE. I'LL HANDLE THE X-MEN!
I KNOW YOU PEOPLE ARE SKILLED SUPER HEROES... WELL-HONED MUTANT POWERS, AND SUCH. WITH ALL THAT TRAINING... DIDN'T ANYONE EVER TEACH YOU TO KNOCK?
KNOCKIN' BEGINS NOW, ASSASSIN. INSTANT I'M CLOSE ENOUGH TO.
HELL!
WOLVERINE, YOU'RE SUCH AN ANIMAL. UNFAIR, THAT SENSE OF SMELL. MAKES ME SO MAD, I COULD JUST--
--EXPLODE
DAZZLER! COLOSSUS! DOWN! I'LL COVER ROGUE!
THAT'S NOT ARCADE! IT'S ANOTHER OF HIS ROBOTS!
YOW!

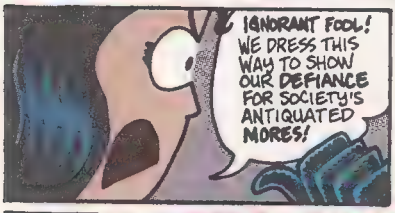
WOLVERINE.. A HIDDEN COMPARTMENT! AND..
ANOTHER ARCADE ROBOT ATTACK! ANYONE KILLED OR MAIMED BY THE BLOODWING MOTEL?
NO.. I AM WELL.. AT LEAST I COVERED MY ESCAPE STILL.. GOING A BIT UP-LIKE THIS LATELY. THESE PLACES DON'T COME CHEAP, Y'KNOW.
GOTTA SALVAGE SOMETHING FROM THE EFFERENCE.. LIKE HEY! MY SPY MONITORS INTERCEPTED A FASCINATING LITTLE TIDBIT CONCERNS MY FANCE TE PANCHO YOU, WOLVERINE
THE NAME DAVID MARCUS MEANS ANY BELL? SHIELD THINKS IT MIGHT THEY'RE SCARED HE'S AN OL' BUDDY..
-AND YOU MIGHT GO ALL UNHINGED IF WORD LEAKS THAT HE'S DEAD, DEAD AS A DOORNAIL IN ONE OF THEIR OPERATIONS WHAT NERVOUS NELLIES, HUH..
SNIKT
OH WOLVIE! YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL WHEN YOU'RE BERSERK!
IF I KNEW THIS WAS GONNA UPSET YOU SO MUCH..
-I'D HAVE SAID SOMETHING SOONER!!!
CHUNK
CHUNK


.. SHOULD CONSIDER THE POSITIVE SIDE, COLONEL FURY.
WE'RE LOOKING AT CLEAR ALWYN HAZELTINE..
..AN ENTIRE CAPITATION FROM TECHNICIANS TO THE TEAM LEADER POSITIVE COMES A LITTLE HARD FOR ME.
YOU'RE FORGETTING TAINA, SIR.
THE SMALL PLASTIC DISC LEFT ON TEAM LEADER NANJIWARRA'S CORPSE.
N'CA AN ME ARE ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH THAT HAZELTINE. IT'S--
A ZODIAC SYMBOL, SCORPIO, OF COURSE, SPECIAL DIRECTOR DUBAN. AVAILABLE ANYWHERE ON CHEAP KEY CHAINS OR AS PRIZES IN BUBBLE GUM MACHINES.
BUT IT'S ALSO THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT CLUE TO COME OUR WAY SINCE WE MOUNTED OUR COUNTEROFFENSIVE AGAINST THE TERRORIST SUPPORT NETWORK SWIFT SWORD.
OBVIOUSLY THE OBJECT ITSELF IS TOO COMMON TO BE TRACED BUT THE SYMBOL, COLONEL--

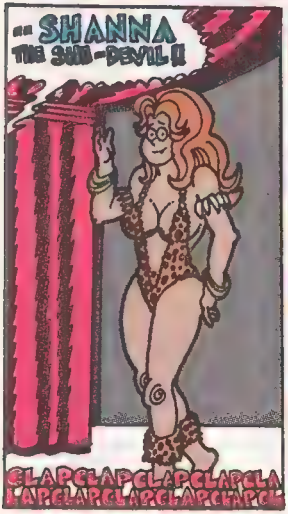

...REALLY HITS A NERVE! YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT A CASUAL COMPUTER CHECK SET IN MOTION.
DATABANKS AT INFORMATION CENTRAL IN ATLANTA WERE ABSOLUTELY ALWAYS FILES ALIVE. I ORDERED IT ALL DOWN-LOADED FOR YOUR ARRIVAL, SO--
SIDDOWN, HAZELTINE! TAKE A LOAD OFF YOUR MIND!
I DON'T NEED TO SEE THAT FILE...I LIVED IT! DUSAN, HOW'D I GET AGENTS TOO YOUNG TO KNOW ABOUT SCORPIO?
WHEN THE ONES WHO'D REMEMBER RETIRED, NICK.
YEAH... WELL, YOU OUGHTTA AT LEAST HAVE A SENSE OF HISTORY, HAZELTINE.
HERE'S A QUICK LESSON.
THAT D'SC IS THE CALLING CARD OF ONE OF THE WORST DAMN MENACES TO EVER CROSS SHIELD OR ME.
FINDING IT AT THAT SLAUGHTER IN MACAU PCCHU MEANS HE'S BACK...BACK FROM THE DEAD
SO BESIDES THE SHIFT SWORD NETWORK, WE'VE GOT A GHOST WHO SHOULD'VE BEEN LONG LAID TO REST
FORGET POSITIVE, HAZELTINE. I'M HANDLING THIS THE WAY I SHOULD'VE THE LAST TIME PERSONALLY.
PREVIEW'S OVER!
BE SURE TO WATCH FOR
THE SCORPIO CONNECTION GRAPHIC NOVEL
ON SALE SOON!

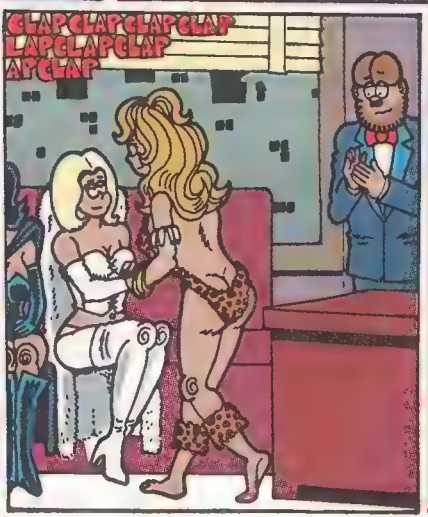
..WE NOW JOIN "THE FRED HEMBECK SHOW", ALREADY IN PROGRESS...
--ORLD DOMINATION IS, OF COURSE, THE ULTIMATE GOAL, BUT IF WE CAN MAIM A FEW X-MEN ALONG THE WAY, ALL THE BETTER.
mmhmm..


YOU KNOW, DURING THIS ENTIRE INTERVIEW, I'VE GOTTEN THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT YOU'VE BEEN LISTENING WITH YOUR EYES, NOT YOUR EARS.
mmhmm
AHA!

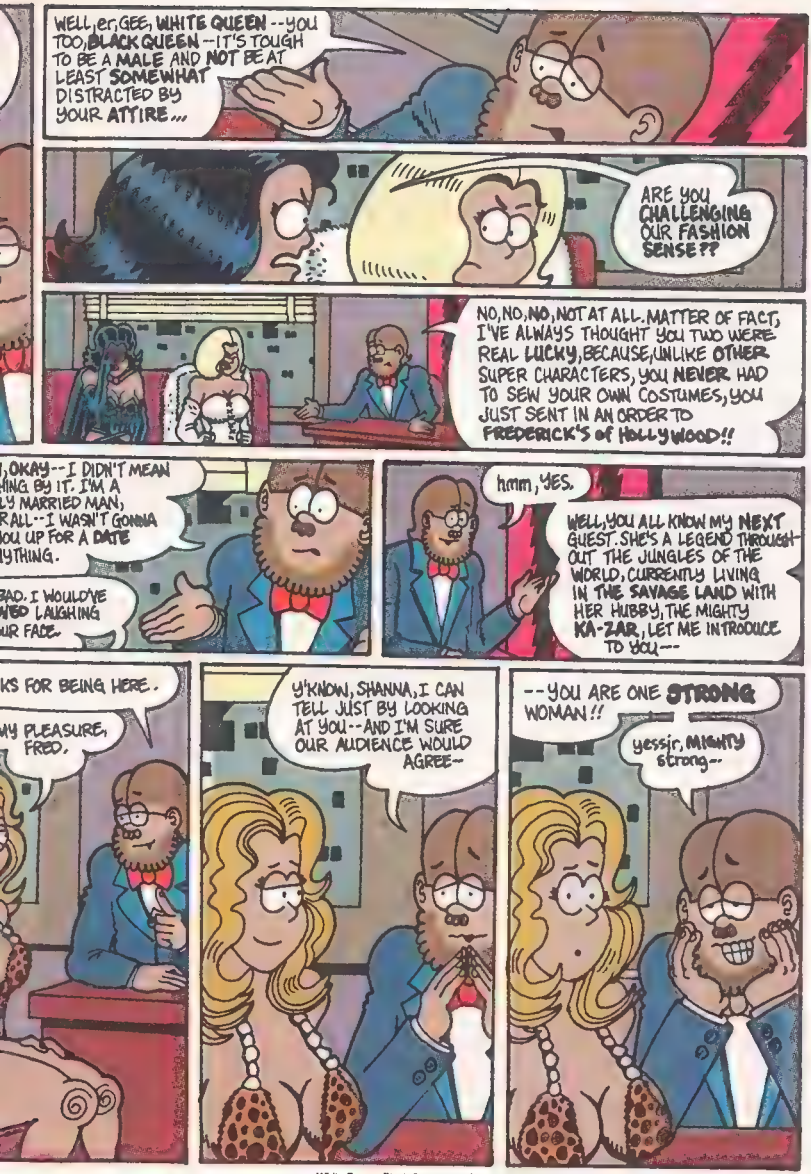

IGNORANT FOOL! WE DRESS THIS WAY TO SHOW OUR DEFIANCE FOR SOCIETY'S ANTIQUATED MORES!

WE'RE STRONG WOMEN, TOAD, AND STRONG WOMEN CAN WEAR WHATEVER THEY WANT, AND THIS IS WHAT WE WANT TO WEAR-- UNDERSTOOD??
OKAY
ANY
HAPP
AFTE
HIT
OR A
TOO
ENJO
IN YO


SHANNA
THE SHE-DEVIL II
CLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLA
LAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCLAPCL


CLAPCLAPCLAPCLAP
LAPCLAPCLAP
APCLAP

THAN


WELL, er, GEE, WHITE QUEEN --YOU TOO, BLACK QUEEN --IT'S TOUGH TO BE A MALE AND NOT BE AT LEAST SOMEWHAT DISTRACTED BY YOUR ATTIRE...
ARE YOU CHALLENGING OUR FASHION SENSE??
NO, NO, NO, NOT AT ALL. MATTER OF FACT, I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU TWO WERE REAL LUCKY, BECAUSE, UNLIKE OTHER SUPER CHARACTERS, YOU NEVER HAD TO SEW YOUR OWN COSTUMES, YOU JUST SENT IN AN ORDER TO FREDERICK'S of HOLLYWOOD!!
, OKAY -- I DIDN'T MEAN HING BY IT. I'M A LY MARRIED MAN; R ALL -- I WASN'T GONNA OU UP FOR A DATE YTHING.
BAD. I WOULD'VE WED LAUGHING UR FACE.
hmm, YES.
WELL, YOU ALL KNOW MY NEXT GUEST. SHE'S A LEGEND THROUGH-OUT THE JUNGLES OF THE WORLD, CURRENTLY LIVING IN THE SAVAGE LAND WITH HER HUBBY, THE MIGHTY KA-ZAR, LET ME INTRODUCE TO YOU---
KS FOR BEING HERE.
MY PLEASURE, FRED.
Y'KNOW, SHANNA, I CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT YOU -- AND I'M SURE OUR AUDIENCE WOULD AGREE--
--YOU ARE ONE STRONG WOMAN!!
yessir, MIGHTY strong--

White Queen, Black Queen, and Shanna the She-Devil TM of Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc.

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Film Fans!

First of all, let's test your memory! Do you recall my telling you last ish about some of the movie and TV projects we're working on? Sure you do! And do you remember **Captain America** being included among the hallowed names of Marvel herodom slated for the big screen? Natch, how could you forget?!! Well, here's some exclusive follow-up on Cap's burgeoning rise to big-screen stardom . . .

The first thing almost everybody wants to know is—who'll be the vile, vicious, venomous villain? Well, we figured we had to go with the most infamous of all of Cap's sinister sparring partners, namely—the ever loathsome **Red Skull**! But be forewarned! You won't be seeing some big, mighty-muscled misanthrope hammering away at Cap's shield for ninety minutes of mindless action! You won't be seeing some simplistic, kiddie—oriented plot for the snobbish, jaded critics to sneer at! You won't be seeing just another "mash 'em/slash 'em, sock 'em/rock 'em" cheapie aimed at the easy-to-please kindergarten brigade!

Now don't misunderstand! I'm not claiming that Cap's first foray into feature film will be right up there with **Tolstoy's** "War and Peace" or Homer's "Iliad"! But you can be sure of this—it'll be head and shoulders above whatever the average moviegoer might be expecting!

You see, we tried to do with this feature film the same thing we've always tried to do with our own comics. Namely, make it exciting and colorful enough to satisfy the most frenetic action fan; but also—give it as much intelligence and sophistication and believable characterization as we possibly can. You'll see **Steve Rogers** as a real, flesh-and-blood human being, with problems and hang-ups and a gripping, unusual love affair unlike any you've seen before! You'll see his alter-ego, Captain America, trapped in a strange and mystifying world, a world that belongs to us but not to him! You'll see him as you've never seen him before, fighting impossible odds with the fate of the nation at stake while, at the same time, he must also confront and defeat his own private devils!

As for the Red Skull, you'll learn things about him that you never knew, never even suspected. You'll learn how and why he and Cap became the world's most deadly enemies, and you'll see, for the first time anywhere, the hitherto hidden story behind the Skull's incredible origin!

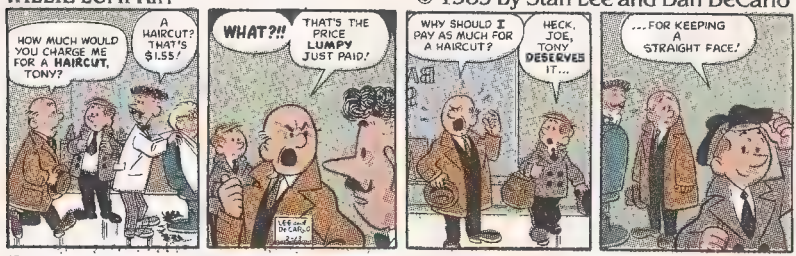
Even as I write these imperishable words, our director, **Albert Pyun**, ("Sword and the Sorcerer") is on his way to Europe to scout out the most authentic, most picturesque locations for the many incredible battle scenes which will be filmed in colorful sites all over the globe! At this very moment, the costume designers are busily at work creating the dramatic garb for Cap, the Skull, and all the other bigger-and-boider-than-life characters whom you'll never forget! And, most important of all, our casting directors are working around the clock, interviewing and testing some of Hollywood's brightest and most talented stars! (Of course, the casting will be all completed by the time this column sees print. I'll clue you in to who's playing whom in the next Soapbox!)

So, we'll merrily go about our business, letting the hue and cry of the Batman movie slowly die down, and then, when you least expect it, Captain America will burst upon the public consciousness like a Marvel meteor—or so we hope!

More next time. Till then, never let yourself forget—*suaviter in modo, fortiter in re!*

Excelsior!

Stan


WILLIE LUMPKIN
© 1989 by Stan Lee and Dan DeCarlo
HOW MUCH WOULD YOU CHARGE ME FOR A HAIRCUT, TONY?
A HAIRCUT? THAT'S $1.55!
WHAT?!!
THAT'S THE PRICE LUMPY JUST PAID!
LEE and DeCARLO
WHY SHOULD I PAY AS MUCH FOR A HAIRCUT?
HECK, JOE, TONY DESERVES IT...
...FOR KEEPING A STRAIGHT FACE!

MARVEL® TRIVIA QUIZ

We all know how **Wolverine** has taken over the world of comics—but are you aware he's conquered the world of theater as well? This spring two new plays have premiered in Los Angeles in which the feral **X-Man** plays a substantive role—offstage, that is! At the Mark Taper Forum, **Bill Cain**'s new play STAND-UP TRAGEDY deals with a ghetto kid whose obsession with comics provides the only hope in his life, and Wolverine is one of his favorites! The hero of **Casey Kurtti**'s THREE WAYS HOME, at the Los Angeles Theater Center, takes it even further, wearing a Wolverine T-shirt and striving to emulate the mutant hero in his own life! As for **Nick Fury**, he may just be enjoying multi-media success without our knowing it—he's a secret agent, after all, right? So while you ponder whether Nick's been making secret appearances in recent New World releases, here's twelve quick teasers covering both Fury and Wolverine—with answers, as always, on page 32.

—Brian Nelson

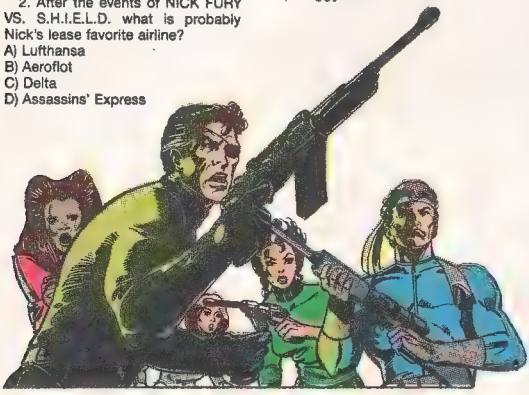
1. Who knows that, contrary to public belief, Wolverine is actually alive?
A) **Mariko**
B) **Karma**
C) **Kitty**
D) **Elvis**

2. After the events of NICK FURY VS. S.H.I.E.L.D. what is probably Nick's lease favorite airline?
A) Lufthansa
B) Aeroflot
C) Delta
D) Assassins' Express

3. Which of Wolverine's Madripoor allies was named in tribute to a Marvel comics writer and one of his most distinguished creations?
A) **Jessan Hoan**
B) **Archie Corrigan**
C) **Lindsay McCabe**
D) **Stan Tomazooma**

4. Nick Fury attacked the **Fantastic Four** under what identity:
A) the **Man in the Mystery Mask**
B) the **Invincible Man**
C) the **Red Rajah**
D) **Pee-Wee Herman**

5. Which Wolverine foe was first introduced as a supporting character in DAREDEVIL?
A) **Silver Samurai**
B) **Bloodsport**
C) **Lady Deathstroke**
D) **Foggy Nelson**



6. Who has Nick Fury never attended funeral services for?
A) **Captain America**
B) **Hawkeye**
C) **Sharon Carter**
D) **H.E.R.B.I.E.**

7. In the future of **Rachel Summers**, Wolverine was killed by:
A) **D'Spayre**
B) **Nimrod**
C) a **Sentinel**
D) the critics

8. At which group's rock concert was Nick Fury apparently assassinated?
A) **Country Joe and the Fish**
B) **Jefferson Airplane**
C) **Paul Revere and the Raiders**
D) the **Partridge Family**

9. Which redhead met Wolverine first?
A) **Jean Grey**
B) **Madelyne Pryor**
C) **Heather Hudson**
D) **Lucille Bail**

10. Which agent did Nick Fury welcome into the ranks of S.H.I.E.L.D. in the second issue of his own book?
A) **Clay Quartermain**
B) **Jimmy Woo**
C) **Gail Runciter**
D) **Barbara Feldon**

11. Wolverine's first appearance was in the last panel of:
A) INCREDIBLE HULK #181
B) INCREDIBLE HULK #182
C) INCREDIBLE HULK ANNUAL #8
D) OBNOXIO VS. THE X-MEN #1

12. Which **Hydra** threat did Nick Fury defeat first?
A) the **Fifth Sleeper**
B) the Satan Claw
C) the Betatron Bomb
D) the **Baron Strucker** for President write-in campaign.

Before NICK FURY, There was . . . LIEUTENANT

BLUEBERRY

What if, at the end of the Civil War, a small band of ex-Confederate officers had fled to Mexico with half-a-million dollars in gold, to plan for the resurrection of the South?

What if a mad U.S. general was plotting to assassinate **President Grant** and establish a military dictatorship?

We are in 1869. Our story begins when **General McPherson**, a special envoy from President Ulysses Grant, is sent to New Mexico to recruit an unlikely hero, U.S. Cavalry **Lieutenant Mike S. Blueberry**, for a desperate secret mission to Mexico, in search of the missing Confederate gold.

In the best tradition of *Mission Impossible*, Blueberry is given a choice between taking the assignment, or being court-martialed for his past, undisciplined career. Furthermore, McPherson makes it clear to him that, if he is caught by the Mexicans, who are also looking for the gold, Washington will deny his very existence!

Ploys and double-crosses ensue, with the Mexicans eventually framing Blueberry for stealing the gold himself. He is then sent to a federal penitentiary. But when he escapes to find proof of his innocence, he stumbles upon an even more dangerous conspiracy. One aimed at nothing less than the assassination of President Grant himself in the first American coup d'etat!

The fate of the United States now rests in the hands of a lone cavalry officer, hunted by good and bad guys alike, and wanted by the armies of two countries . . .

All this is but a brief summary of the contents of *only* the first two volumes of a new series entitled LIEUTENANT BLUEBERRY, which offers a new, fascinating look into a "What If?" history of our country.

This "alternate universe" saga will be comprised of five volumes: CHIHUAHUA PEARL (96 pages), BALLAD FOR A COFFIN (120 pages), ANGEL FACE (96 pages), THE GHOST TRIBE (96 pages), and THE END OF THE TRAIL (96 pages), all to be released by Epic Comics, on a bimonthly basis, beginning July 1989.

LIEUTENANT BLUEBERRY is **Moebius's** western masterpiece, created with, and written by, **Jean-Michel Charlier**. It has been called "the most vigorous and exciting western since *Red Ryder*, one of the masterpieces of European comics," by **Maurice Horn** in his famous WORLD ENCYCLOPEDIA OF COMICS.

There is little need to reintroduce Moebius to the Marvel audience. An artist whose work has won virtually every comic book award there is to be won in the world, Jean Moebius Giraud has been published regularly by Marvel since 1987. His latest work was THE SILVER SURFER: PARABLE with **Stan Lee**.

Writer Jean-Michel Charlier is one of the most successful and prolific writers in French comics. He started in the field in 1947 when he and artist **Victor Hubinon** created a U.S. Air Force hero named *Buck Danny*, a series which is still being published today.

In 1959, Charlier helped found the legendary weekly magazine *Pilote*, for which he created a number of other heroes, such as a merciless pirate named **Barbe-Rouge**, a brave French air force captain named **Michael Tanguy** and, of course, the indomitable Lieutenant Blueberry, whose adventures began in 1963.

BLUEBERRY is not like any other western ever written. Unlike the LONE RANGER, the RAWHIDE KID or the

TWO-GUN KID, he is not a wandering lawman who brings evil-doers to justice. Unlike the archetypal **Louis L'Amour** hero, he is not a handsome cowboy who rides into town, saves the ranch, becomes the new sheriff and marries the schoolmarm. If anything, Blueberry is more like an early cousin of that well-known S.H.I.E.L.D. ramrod, **Nick Fury**.

In style and contents, the LIEUTENANT BLUEBERRY books are more of an early American **James Bond** or **Indiana Jones** saga, which undoubtedly helps explain their tremendous success over the years.

For, today, BLUEBERRY is indeed one of the most popular comic book series in the world, totaling twenty-seven books, including a YOUNG BLUEBERRY spin-off series, drawn by former *Judge Dredd* artist **Colin Wilson**. (The YOUNG BLUEBERRY books will soon be published in the U.S. by Catalan Communications.)

The material selected by Epic was originally drawn between 1970 and 1988, and roughly represents the entire second half of the existing body of BLUEBERRY stories. If the current series proves to be successful, earlier volumes will be presented at a later date.

As was the case with the previous Moebius and INCAL books, the BLUEBERRY series will be edited by **Archie Goodwin** and **Margaret Clark**, and translated by **Randy** and **Jean-Marc Lofficier**, whose current Marvel credits include writing (with **Roy Thomas**) the *Tales of the Vishanti* back-up feature in DOCTOR STRANGE and stories for another upcoming Epic series, CLIVE BARKER'S HELLRAISER.

Moebius will be painting new illustrations for each of the books, whose covers have been designed in an attractive "southwestern" style by Epic designer **Robbin Broeterman**. Strangely enough, this is the first time ever that BLUEBERRY wil be released under the name of "Moebius," usually reserved by the artist for his science-fiction stories, rather than under his real name of Jean Giraud, as has always been the case in the rest of the world.

This is particularly ironic because Giraud first coined the "Moebius" pseudonym precisely because he wanted to keep his two bodies of work separate. Yet, the artist recognizes the fact that he has now become better known in this country under his "nom-de-plume," and this is his way of making it official!

Meanwhile, Moebius-as-Moebius is not remaining idle. This fall, Epic will publish a six-issue mini-series spin-off of his popular AIRTIGHT GARAGE graphic novel, in which he reintroduces that quasi-omnipotent creator of the world, **Major Grubert**, and expands on his Moebius Universe. Entitled THE ELSEWHERE PRINCE, this mini-series is being drawn by OZ artist **Eric Shanower**.

Moebius is also scheduled to draw a series of eight posters featuring such sterling Marvel heroes as **Wolverine**, **Spider-Man**, **The Punisher**, **Daredevil**, **Iron Man**, etc. Thereby keeping a hand in the Marvel Universe.

But first, our curtain rises on a sun-baked Arizona day in 1869, when Lieutenant Blueberry puts a stop to a secret Mexican incursion into U.S. territory, unwittingly setting in motion a shattering series of events which will shake the entire country.

—R.J.M. Lofficier

A Nightmare ON ELM STREET™

NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET TM and © 1989
The Fourth New Line Heron Venture.

Welcome to Springwood, on the surface an idyllic American town full of typical middle-class American families. One would never expect that years ago, this town was terrorized by a madman named **Freddy Krueger**, who murdered children with the sharp metal claws affixed to his glove. Or that a mob of parents living on Springwood's Elm Street hunted him down to his boiler room lair and burned him alive. Or that even as Krueger went up in flames he taunted his killers, saying "I'll come back." Or that he did, in the form of a spectral bogeyman with a face ravaged by burns, who terrorized the children of his murderers in their dreams. And one by one, the teenage children of Elm Street met mysterious, often horrifying deaths. The teenagers had claimed that it was Freddy Krueger who was out to get them, and yet few people believed them. And now, his vengeance nearly complete, Krueger has moved on to stalk the other children of the town through their nightmares.

This is the story of the four movies in the tremendously successful series A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET, released by New Line Cinema and based on an original premise by **Wes Craven**. A fifth movie in the series will be released this summer, and the series' archvillain, Freddy Krueger, hosts a television series called FREDDY'S NIGHTMARES. And now Freddy Krueger moves into a new medium with the new A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET comic series from Marvel, in the black and white magazine format. The lead stories in the magazine will be written by veteran Marvel writer **Steve Gerber**, whose best known comics work includes MAN-THING, DEFENDERS and HOWARD THE DUCK. The first story will be drawn by **Rich Buckler** and **Tony DeZuniga** and inked by **Alfredo Alcala**.

"I was told that Marvel would be doing a NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET book. I was very interested in that," Steve Gerber said. "I submitted a proposal for it to the book's editor, **Bob Budiansky**. Bob liked the proposal and gave me the assignment.

"As somebody else put it, it's only appropriate that someone with a sleep disorder do this book," Steve says, laughing. "I don't know if I really have a sleep disorder, but my relationship with sleep has always been very strange.

"I'd seen a couple of the movies before this. I've since seen all of them and read the script for the upcoming fifth one." Freddy "is a very, very interesting character, and the idea of a demon who attacks you while you sleep, and against whom your only defense is to stay awake forever, is a very interesting premise." It's interesting, Steve believes, "because there's no defense against him," or, at least, there does not seem to be. "The only defense is something that is physically impossible, so you have to come up with other ways of dealing with him. And no one has up to this point.

"There are people who just barely manage to escape him, and, in fact, one of the big things I wanted to do with the book right away was to give him a worthy antagonist."

The series is founded on a very real premise, the immense psychological power of dreams. "They can either be a tremendously crippling influence or a tremendously strengthening influence," Steve observes. "What Freddy thrives upon is the ability to destroy the image of yourself in your dreams. What he really attacks you through is the weakest part of your own self-image. He attacks you not so much through your fears about the world, which are bad enough, but through your fears about yourself and your own inadequacies. If he can intimidate you, if he can frighten you in your dreams, then he's got you." In the films the characters who resist Freddy create positive, forceful images of themselves in their dreams that can stand up to him. "The trick is that Freddy can pretty much find a crack even in that edifice," Steve points out. "It has got to be impermeable or he can still find a way in and convince you it's all bravado, and then it's all over for you." And it is true that although some characters Freddy has menaced in their dreams in the first four films have managed to escape for a while, so far only one of them still remains alive. (And who knows what might happen to her in the fifth movie?)

"Essentially the premise is that if he manages to get hold of one of your dreams and twist it in such a way as to make it believable to you, then he can kill you in your dream and you will die in the real world." And when Freddy is stalking you through your

dreams, you cannot convince anyone who hasn't encountered Freddy in his or her own dreams what is really happening to you. "There's no way to explain it to anybody. In the first issue, for example, Freddy goes after this girl named **Allison**, and almost beats her to death, essentially, in the dream, and destroys her bedroom in the process. The police and paramedics take a look at the room and the girl and immediately think it's a case of child abuse. They blame it on the parents. The parents are temporarily put in custody because no one can find any other explanation for it. The parents deny it, of course, but they don't know what happened, either.

"The other thing that is terribly interesting about A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET is the dream imagery, the fact that all the action takes place in a completely metaphysical world where up and down and sideways and three dimensions have no bearing whatsoever. It makes for some very interesting visuals in the book and in the movies." Freddy, in fact, specializes in wreaking inventively horrific dooms for his victims.

"And the truly horrifying thing about the images is not just what he does and where he takes you, but that he laughs at you," Steve says, laughing himself. Freddy's trademark is his macabre sense of humor, displayed in the darkly ironic one-liners he delivers as he destroys yet another of his victims. "It's the thing that I'm sure has made him the hit that he is in the movies," Steve declares. "He's very funny," although, Steve adds, "the humor's about as black as it could possibly get." The films somehow manage to maintain a balance between this grim humor and real horror, so that they do not descend into camp. "It is a very delicate balance," Steve agrees. "I probably am going to slant it a little more toward the serious in the comic book," Steve states. "The humor is sadistic. We've played him very much that way in the comic book, maybe even a little more so than in the movies."

"We have gone into a great deal of detail in the first issue about his background, about what he was when he was alive, and how he came to be what he is. Although we're still leaving exactly what he is very much a mystery, because you have to. We know that he's this demon that attacks you in your dreams, but exactly how and why we can't come out and state. It is unexplainable," and, in fact, the mystery contributes to the power Freddy has as a character. "There is an explanation hinted at in the first issue," Steve says, "but I'm never going to come out and state it because I don't know if it's the right one myself. It's a good explanation," he laughs, "but I'd hate for it to be that pat myself."

The first issue introduces two new major characters. One is the aforementioned Allison. "She is about fifteen years old," Steve says, and she "is an inadvertent dream stalker, someone who can hunt through dreams in very much the same way that Freddy can, but who isn't dead. More than that I don't want to say because it'll give too much of the story away, but let's just say she discovered this ability without knowing what it was at first, and in the first couple of issues she comes to know exactly what it is, what it can do, and how it can help her."

The other new major character is **Juliann**, a psychiatrist. She is "the last of the children of the Elm Street parents who killed him that we know about, at least. The reason that Freddy did not get her is that her parents moved away from Springwood shortly after Freddy's murder took place. She's several years older than the kids who appeared in the first movie; she's in her early twenties when we meet her."

The early issues of the comic book will introduce the person Steve intends to be the "worthy antagonist" for Freddy. "I think there needs to be someone who escapes him at least more than once. I don't want to tell you which character in the first book it's going to be, but there is one who is going to be a continuing nemesis for him." Steve will not say whether this antagonist will be Allison, Juliann, or someone else; nor will he say

whether Allison, Juliann, or both even survive past the second issue.

Those of you who are not acquainted with the movies may assume from Freddy's grotesque appearance and sharp claws that the NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET movies are part of the "slasher" genre of horror movies. In fact, however, the ELM STREET movies are quite different. "The slasher movie formula of kids having sex and then somebody buries an axe in their heads is not how these movies work at all," Steve states. "In fact the sexual aspect is very underplayed in these things, and really has almost nothing to do with the way Freddy operates in them. It has nothing to do with his particular motivation, although it did in his early history. It has nothing to do with his desire to get back at most of the kids he's gone after so far."

Steve finds Freddy himself to be a fascinating character. "Freddy is really the quintessential psychopath, but a very realistic one in his own way. In your average slasher picture the slasher kills people just because of where they are"--they happen to be in the killer's path. "Freddy, from the very beginning, had a stronger motivation than that. He was after the Elm Street children specifically because of what their parents did to him. His motivations have expanded beyond that. In the fourth movie he begins to go after other teenagers, and his goals will expand still further in the fifth movie. "Partly what he's after is power," Steve says, "the power that he gets from killing people and absorbing their souls.

"He enjoys killing," Steve says, "and he enjoys killing in a very particular way." He appears to take real pleasure in devising highly imaginative dooms for his intended victims. "The other thing that is interesting about him is that he really enjoys a good fight. This is not somebody who particularly likes
aking up behind a helpless victim
d burying his claws in him."

Also, Steve points out, "Because of the fact that he attacks through dreams, you find out a great deal more about his victims than you ever did about the victims of the regular slashers in their movies." The other characters in the ELM STREET stories are not just faceless cannon fodder. "The stories tend to be very revealing about the kids' characters." In fact, it has been stated that part of the appeal of the ELM STREET movies has been in showing how their teenage heroes manage to defy and even overcome the monster that stalks their dreams.

Steve is aware of the danger of repetitiveness in an ongoing comics series about Freddy's attacks, but is confident he has overcome it. "I think we've gotten past the formula in the first issue, and we'll continue to. I don't want to say exactly how, because I think that will be a big surprise for people."

Steve Gerber has been in contact with the people at New Line Cinema who are in charge of the Freddy Krueger character, and New Line reviews the stories Marvel is doing for the ELM STREET book to make sure they are consistent with the continuity of the films.

The comics series will begin with one long ELM STREET story spread over the first two issues, with forty-four page installments in each. After that, each issue will contain a NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET story of about thirty pages in length, and there will be back-up stories by other creative teams.

A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET is only the first of many new projects that Steve Gerber is working on for Marvel. Later this year his two-issue Graphic Album series LEGION OF NIGHT will be released. Drawn by **Whilce Portacio,** this series deals with a number of characters from supernatural series that Steve wrote for Marvel in the 1970s banding together to combat occult menaces. Steve feels the series will appeal to anyone who likes the ELM STREET comic. Steve will also be taking over the HAWKEYE series in AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT, and will be making Hawkeye's wife, **Mockingbird,** a co-star of the series. He is also working on two graphic novels featuring the **Man-Thing,** one of the Marvel characters he is best known for writing.

Summing up about the new NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET comic, Steve says, "I would tell people that if they're interested in a book with a lot of scary, weird images, if they liked the old horror books Marvel did in the 1970s, and if they like what they're doing with Freddy on the screen now, take a look at this book. You'll enjoy it. Don't pre-judge it if you've never seen Freddy before in the films. I think this book will make people who haven't seen the movies want to see them. As for the people who have seen the NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET movies, I don't think the book will disappoint them at all."

--Peter Sanderson

POLICE ACADEMY™

·THE COMIC BOOK·

You've seen them in the movies (all six of them). You've seen them in a wacky cartoon series on TV. Now see them in their very own Marvel Comic. That's right, POLICE ACADEMY is coming! Written by **Angelo DeCesare** and drawn by **Howie Post** and **Jacqueline Roettcher**, this title promises to be like nothing else Marvel offers.

Angelo DeCesare should be no stranger to Marvel fans. An old colleague of editor **Sid Jacobson** from his Harvey Comics days, Angelo has written and drawn HEATHCLIFF and written FLINTSTONE KIDS, CARE BEARS, and MUPPET BABIES and he is putting special effort into his newest project—POLICE ACADEMY.

For those of you who may have been living on the moon for the last decade, POLICE ACADEMY involves the wild antics of a group of oddball police officers. Individually each member of this crew is quite a character. Together they are a monsoon of merriment. We'll start the roll call with **Sergeant Carey Mahoney**, the general brain of the outfit, the main wise guy. He is the guy who dreams up all the wild schemes that the group gets into, and he is the guy that manages to get them out of the scrapes. "He's sort of like a young **Sergeant Bilko**" Angelo told MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. Mahoney's best friend is officer **Orville Jones**, who is a master of sound effects. You need a siren, he does it. You need an explosion, just ask Jones.

Lieutenant Callahan is the martial arts expert of the group. She is also very hard to miss in a crowd, being a *very* attractive woman. But if any guy gets out of line, he'll find out that Callahan is no pushover.

POLICE ACADEMY TM and © 1989 by Warner Bros., Inc.

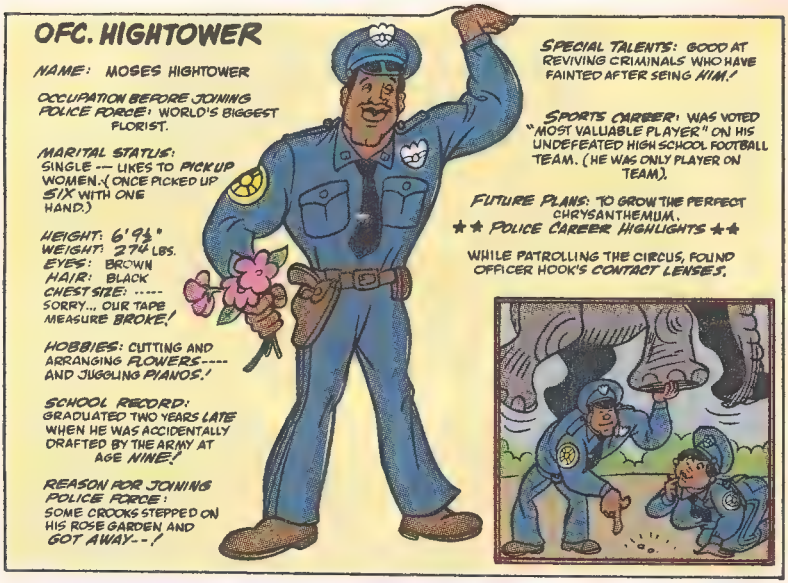
Officer Zed looks like he's just come out of a time warp from the 60s. He's basically an '80s hippie, complete with wild long hair. You never know what Zed is going to do.

Officer Hooks appears to be a mild mannered, timid woman. Don't let that fool you. Hooks always rises to the occasion and comes through for the crew when necessary.

Officer Hightower, like Callahan, is hard to miss in a crowd—but for different reasons. Hightower is huge. And his strength is legendary among the members of the Police Academy. You can believe that he will be putting this great strength to good use in the pages of POLICE ACADEMY.

Officer House likes to eat. No, he loves to eat. No, he lives to eat. And believe me, it looks it.

Sweetchuck is a short timid guy with glasses. Like Hooks, however, his appearance can be deceiving. The


OFC. HIGHTOWER
NAME: MOSES HIGHTOWER
OCCUPATION BEFORE JOINING POLICE FORCE: WORLD'S BIGGEST FLORIST.
MARITAL STATUS: SINGLE --- LIKES TO PICKUP WOMEN.(ONCE PICKED UP SIX WITH ONE HAND.)
HEIGHT: 6' 9½"
WEIGHT: 274 LBS.
EYES: BROWN
HAIR: BLACK
CHEST SIZE: ----
SORRY... OUR TAPE MEASURE BROKE!
HOBBIES: CUTTING AND ARRANGING FLOWERS---- AND JUGGLING PIANOS.!
SCHOOL RECORD: GRADUATED TWO YEARS LATE WHEN HE WAS ACCIDENTALLY DRAFTED BY THE ARMY AT AGE NINE!
REASON FOR JOINING POLICE FORCE: SOME CROOKS STEPPED ON HIS ROSE GARDEN AND GOT AWAY---!
SPECIAL TALENTS: GOOD AT REVIVING CRIMINALS WHO HAVE FAINTED AFTER SEING HIM.!
SPORTS CAREER: WAS VOTED "MOST VALUABLE PLAYER" ON HIS UNDEFEATED HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM. (HE WAS ONLY PLAYER ON TEAM).
FUTURE PLANS: TO GROW THE PERFECT CHRYSANTHEMUM.
★★ POLICE CAREER HIGHLIGHTS ★★
WHILE PATROLLING THE CIRCUS, FOUND OFFICER HOOK'S CONTACT LENSES.

officers of the POLICE ACADEMY can always depend on Sweetchuck to get the job done.

Finally, **Officer Tackleberry** is the weapons man. He knows them all, he can use them all, and, if necessary, he does. When there's trouble, you might very well see Tackleberry blasting his bazooka or charging like the cavalry in a tank.

The POLICE ACADEMY is run by **Commandant Lassard**. He is an amiable, bumbling type, who never seems to know what's going on. He spends most of his time playing golf and feeding his pet goldfish.

The nemesis of the POLICE ACADEMY gang is **Captain Harris**. He hates Mahoney and relentlessly attempts to force Mahoney and his co-workers off the force. He thinks they are unfit to be police officers. **Lieutenant Procter** is the toadying assistant to Captain Harris, and aids him in all of his schemes.

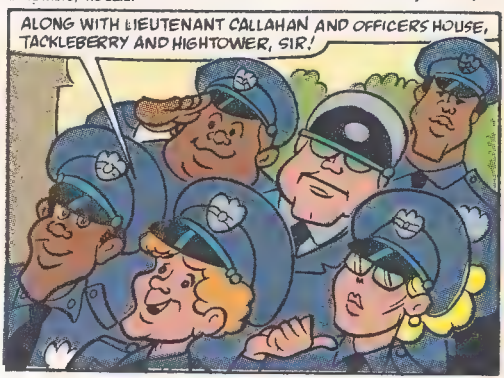
The POLICE ACADEMY gang will be facing a strange group of adversaries. For instance, Mahoney and crew will be set against the **Mad Byter**, a computer genius with a penchant for crime. They will then face the secret of the **Beast from 2½ Fathoms**, which involves a sea monster and a sunken treasure. And when House goes to the hospital, his prodigious appetite becomes the target of a mad scientist who wishes to transfer this aspect of House into a killer robot. Also included in each issue is a hilarious back-up feature.

Angelo is happy to be working on this book. "I like it a lot," he told MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. "I've made the characters my own, giving them their own special personalities." Angelo feels that it is important that story be more than just a story. "I tried to put a message in each book. It will be enjoyable, of course, but hopefully the kids will come away with something more," he said.

A special feature of the series will be the Police Blahther, which will profile the members of the POLICE ACADEMY in a matter similar to that found in Marvel Universe. Another special feature will be the inclusion of maps of the neighborhoods of the members of the Police Academy.

So support the forces of good in their quest to rid the city of evil doers. POLICE ACADEMY is the book for you.

—Sandy Hausler, J.D.



THE MARVEL® AGE OF COMICS 1979 (PART IV)

The most controversial Marvel Tales of 1979 were easily the IRON MAN adventures in which adversity drove **Tony Stark** to alcohol time and again—until he faced his alcoholism in the history-making "Demon in a Bottle!" And let's face it, Stark had plenty of problems that he needed to escape! A renegade group in S.H.I.E.L.D. was after the **Iron Man** suits, and the struggle to control their weaponry sent all parties concerned careening into Russia! **Roxxon** was after an island loaded with vibranium, and the issue of who owned the island brought Shellhead into combat with the **Sub-Mariner**! **Justin Hammer** established himself as a power to be reckoned with, electronically taking over Iron Man's armor and using it to kill an ambassador in public! The fight to clear his name led him to seek extra help from **Captain America** and **Ant-Man**, and into a battle against an army of super-villains! Add to that an encounter with the **Dreadnaught**, worries over a hostile takeover of Stark International, and problems with his relationship with **Bethany Cabe**, and any man would be sorely pressed!

The **David Michelinie/John Romita Jr./Bob Layton** team made comics history with this epic run of stories.

CAPTAIN AMERICA faced tragedy of his own in 1979: After revealing a traitor amidst the **Super-Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.**—namely, the **Blue Streak**—Cap's quest to free the kidnaped **Falcon** from the clutches of the **Corporation** pitted him against the incredible **Hulk**! But fighting the Hulk was a breeze compared to the hate-group known as the **National Force**. When Cap's love, **Sharon Carter**, went undercover to infiltrate the Force,

MARVEL® COMICS PRICE GUIDE

Here's a word problem they didn't give you in 3rd grade: how many Marvel back issues can you buy with thirty dollars? Of course, it's a trick question—you could buy one Frank Miller issue of DAREDEVIL, or nine issues of SPIDER-MAN, three of IRON MAN, twelve of THOR, and twelve of SPIDER-MAN! To assist you when such questions arise in the future, here's our latest installment of the Marvel Comics Price Guide, indicating what you can expect to pay for these back issues at your local comics specialty shop. Our source is **Robert Overstreet's**, THE COMIC BOOK PRICE GUIDE #18. But remember: this is only a guide. Actual prices may vary, and should be less for copies in fair or poor condition.

	CONDITION		
	Good	Fine	Mint
■ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN**			
188		.55	1.10
189-190			
(Byrne art)	.35	1.00	2.00
191-199		.50	1.00
ANNUAL			
13 (Byrne art)	.50	1.50	3.00
■ **CAPTAIN AMERICA**			
229-240		.40	.80
DAREDEVIL			
156-157		.50	1.00
158,			
(**Miller** begins)	3.75	15.00	30.00
159	1.85	5.50	11.00
160-161	1.50	4.50	9.00
■ **DOCTOR STRANGE**			
33-38		.65	1.30
■ **IRON MAN**			
118 (Byrne art)	.70	2.00	4.00
119, 120, 123-129			
(alcohol)	.45	1.25	2.50
121-122, 129		.50	1.00
■ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN**			
26	.35	1.15	2.30
27 (1st Miller DD)	1.60	4.75	9.50
28 (Miller DD)	1.20	3.70	7.40
29-37	.35	1.00	2.00
ANNUAL 1	.25	.75	1.50
■ **SPIDER-WOMAN**			
10-20		.35	.70
21		.25	.50
■ **THOR**			
279-290,			
ANNUAL 8		.40	.80

she was brainwashed into fanatical loyalty to their racist goals. And so when she was captured, she did what any fanatic would do—incinerated herself! Cap's grief over her death would last years. Fortunately **Daredevil** was on hand to help him clean up the Force and expose **Doctor Faustus** as their leader. Encounters with the psychic called **Snowfall** and gang warfare led by the hood called **Big Thunder** kept Cap busy despite his mourning.

Wounded, in a trance, DAREDEVIL found himself attacking the **Avengers** themselves before coming to his

senses and realizing the **Death-Stalker** was his true foe! The arch-nemesis was at last unmasked as long ago DD enemy, the **Exterminator**—and his origin and grisly death (materializing inside a gravestone!) were penciled by an artist new to Daredevil and Marvel both: one **Frank Miller**. With **Roger MacKenzie** scripting, the "devil" in DAREDEVIL was accented, and he ruthlessly overwhelmed **Bullseye** when the killer dared to strike at him through the **Black Widow**.

Miller's first shot at penciling ol' Horn-head came in the pages of PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN. DD joined **a Spidey** who'd been blinded by the **Masked Marauder**, and lent a little expertise in coping with blindness to the web-spinner. Spider-Man went on to team with the **White Tiger** against the craven **Carrion**, the clone of **Miles Warren** whose very touch could kill. As Peter started grad school, he met **Marcy Wade** and other new friends, and tussled with the **Iguana**, the **Lizard**, **Mindworm**, and **Swarm**! The AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL and the PETER PARKER ANNUAL contained one extended epic featuring a mysterious case of murder, and the lethal return of **Doctor Octopus**!

In his original book, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, Peter tackled **Jigsaw**, **Man-Wolf**, and the mastermind who'd been hiring so many of his recent enemies to do him in: **Spencer Smythe**. Smythe unleashed his last **Spider-Slayer** against the amazing arachnid, and lashed Spidey and **J. Jonah Jameson** to a bomb together—but of course, to no avail. After a tangle with the **Fly**, writer **Marv Wolfman** and penciler **Keith Pollard** introduced Spider-Man's latest and most dangerous romantic interest: the **Black Cat**! She apparently died in a fatal fall, but Peter had no time to mourn for her—**Aunt May** had just died! (A rough year for women, as

Bellt could testify in CONAN!) Despite his trauma, Spidey was forced to battle the **Kingpin** and **Mysterio.** Would he discover that May's "death" was actually a plot by the burglar who'd shot **Uncle Ben** in order to unearth treasure hidden in May's house—would he discover this in time to stop it all and save May in his 200th issue? 1980 held the answers, but if you don't already know, relax—for a change, the wall-crawler would enjoy a happy ending.

SPIDER-WOMAN, on the other hand, had her share of sleepless nights, as scripter **Mark Gruenwald** tossed at her some of the strangest felons Marvel Comics had ever seen, including **Gypsy Moth**, the **Brothers Grimm**, and the **Waxman**! Her therapist, **Adele Hatros**, turned out to be the death-cultist, **Nekra**, and her attraction to S.H.I.E.L.D. agent **Jerry Hunt** waned as the **Shroud** re-entered her life! The **Enforcer, Werewolf by Night**, and Spider-Man himself all complicated **Spider-Woman's** life, keeping SPIDER-WOMAN a book where only the unexpected could be expected. At year's end, a new approach was taken to her adventures: she was made a bounty hunter, tracking down crooks with the aid of crippled criminologist **Scotty McDowell.**

Weirdness was of course a keynote for DOCTOR STRANGE, since his first issue! In 1979 he dueled pawns sent against him by the **Dweller in Darkness** and **Nightmare, Dream Weaver, Cyrus Black**, the demons **Ningal** and **Ludi**, and even the animated stone statue of the **Black Knight**! **Sara Wolfe** entered Doc's life as a friend and business manager, despite the Indian eye-killers who were somewhat of a distraction at the time.

Last of Marvel's solo super-stars to be covered is THOR, whose many foes that year included **Ulik, Pluto, Hyperion** (drawn by **Wayne Boring**), and the **Space Phantom**! And in the THOR ANNUAL, the **Thunder God** took on **Zeus** himself, amidst the epic of the Trojan War! Back in his regular book, a joust with **Tempus** robbed Thor's hammer, Mjolnir, of its time-spanning powers, and it couldn't have come at a worse time: just as the **Celestials** seemed ready to judge the Earth! Would **Thor** be able to stop them, even with the help of **Ikaris, Karkas**, and the **Forgotten One**? What secret did that nameless hero hold? Could it be true that **Odin** bowed to the Celestials? Why did the **Destroyer** hurl Thor away from Asgard and back to Earth? Writer **Roy Thomas** kept the questions coming, and only the anniversary issue coming in 1980 would hold all the answers! But first, we've got to wrap up 1979, as we look next month at all the super-team efforts that kept at bay such villains as **Arcade, Chthon, Lunatik**, the Sphinx, U-Man, the **Viper**, and Roxxon!

Excelsior!

—Brian Nelson

TALK IS CHEAP, BUB!

SO:

Send your letters to: MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, c/o Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc., 387 Park Ave. South, New York, NY 10016

Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info on request!

This month's no-nonsense letter column title comes to us clear across the sea from Singapore, courtesy of Michael Ewing-Chow. Thanks, Michael! Y'know, the great thing about Michael's title is that it's such a subtle, sneaky way to pass along a compliment. After all, if the best things in life are free, then cheap talk must at least be pretty darn good, right? You're a beautiful dude, Michael; we love ya.

And with that artful bit of sidestepping under our belts, we'll just take a second to remind the rest of you that we need a brand spanking new title for this column every month. So don't just talk about your ideas; send 'em in! Remember, talk is cheap . . . but postage costs a quarter!

MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

Who is **Irving Forbush**? Each month in the credits of this title, he's always something new, like "claw sharpener" or "in suspended animation."

Lance Allred
923 Osage Dr.
Stillwater, OK 74075

So you want to know who Irving Forbush is, eh, Lance? Well, many a life has been lost seeking the answer to that mystery, but we'll give it to you for free since we're such nice guys.

Irving Forbush is the mascot of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. And each month he puts a cape on his back and a pot on his head to appear on our cover as the Way-Out Wonder, Forbush-Man! The reason we give ol' Honest Irv a different title in our staff box every issue is that, uh . . . well . . . we're not too sure *what* he does around here!

Good thing we don't pay him a salary, huh?

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

I would like to know if you have ever considered putting out a comic with various characters in various poses, full-page or half-page, by a single artist each month. The artists could do the characters they feel comfortable drawing and provide some really excellent artwork.

I am not talking about expensive poster-size pictures but normal comics page-size. You could reserve entire pages for advertisements using the opposite side for the art. This would allow collectors to remove the pictures without damaging the other work.

The artists could also provide some history about themselves and how they got started in the comics business. Some artists I would like to see in this form are **Arthur Adams, John Byrne, Marc Silvestri, Todd McFarlane, Rob Liefeld,** and **Walt Simonson**. Readers could be asked to request their favorites each month or every other month.

These books could also be used to try out new characters or mini-stories on the readers to get opinions on how the ideas will work out. You could call it MARVEL ARTISTS.

Tim Gauss
2900 Colchester Rd.
Lansing, MI 48906

Gee, Tim, sounds to us like you're describing the "all-pinups" issue of MARVEL FANFARE that came out not too long ago! The whole book is nothing but pinups from start to finish, featuring work by a bunch of the artists you mentioned, including Walt Simonson and Arthur Adams, all tied together under a snazzy wrap-around cover by John Byrne!

Your local comics specialty shop may still have a copy or two left over, so don't waste any time. Walk right in and tell the owner, "I demand MARVEL FANFARE #45!" And tell 'em Irving Forbush sent you.

Say, maybe *that's* what Irv does around here . . .

Dear Guys,

I wonder how many people caught **Bruce Willis**'s line in the February 14th episode of Moonlighting. He said, "My spider-sense tells me we're rich."

Or how about the episode of DuckTales where the **Phantom Blot** says, "Compared to me, Doctor Doom is a wimp?"

This is what I like: Seeing the Marvel Universe everywhere I look. I hope to see more in the future.

Chris J. Holt
Rt. 1 Box 8-H
Premont, TX 78375

So do we, Chris! As you may know, it's all part of our master plan for world domination. It starts with little things like these, and before you know it, there'll be Marvelites as far as the eye can see! (Makes you all misty-eyed, doesn't it?)

Until that day comes, though,

we'll keep sending trusty Irving Forbush out every night to sneak into Hollywood studios and add mentions of Marvel into all of their scripts.

Yup, you guessed it—*that's* what Irv does around here.

There's that lemony-fresh yellow background again. And you know what that means—Either Irv's let the dishwasher overflow again, or it's time for our LETTER OF THE MONTH! As usual, we've dug through our acres of mail to come up with a letter that we think will be of special interest to Marveldom at large (or even "small") and printed it against a sunny yellow background to make sure nobody misses it. This time, our Letter of the Month touches a topic which should be of special importance to anyone who's ever submitted samples of his or her work to Marvel.

Dear Marvel,

Everyone who has ever sent things like their portfolios and sample scripts to you knows how slow the process can be. So here's my point: With the newest technocraze, the Fax machine, why not set up a Faxline for those who want to submit samples, since those machines are becoming so accessible nowadays?

Just a thought.

Ken Dozhier
151 Love Lane
Bakersfield, CA 93308

Not a bad idea, Ken, but to tell you the truth, we don't think a Faxline really would speed things up all that much. You see, for the most part, the reason it takes a while for people to get feedback isn't because the mail system's too slow; actually, it's because we get so darned many of the things! Evan Skolnik, our hardworking submissions editor, does his best to reply quickly, but he also tries to give each submission the attention and consideration it deserves . . . and that takes time. So if anyone out there is wondering why he/she hasn't heard about his/her submissions yet, please be patient. We'll get back to you just as soon as we can.

(Incidentally, the same idea applies to the Marvel Correspondents section we run here in MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. We've got quite a few people waiting to be listed, so if you've sent in your info and you're waiting for your name to appear, please hang in there. We'll get to each one of you as soon as possible. Promise.)

Dear "Person who reads these letters at Marvel,"

Can you please print this letter in a future issue of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE:

I want readers from the Australia area to write to the address below and help start a comics fanzine. The fanzine will consist of reviews of modern comics, including Marvel, DC, Australian, and independent companies. It will also be an opportunity for fan art to be published. The first issue will be free to all who write.

Travers Cleeman
Racecourse Rd.
Casterton, Victoria 3311
Australia

Good luck, Travers! Given the number of comics professionals who worked on fanzines of their own before breaking into the business, we know how valuable a fanzine can be for honing your skills (as well as making friends). In fact, we wouldn't be surprised if you hear, not only from your fellow citizens Down Under, but from other folks "Upover" as well!

And just to make your life easier, we're having Irving Forbush stop by Australia on his way to work tomorrow to lend a hand. After all, that's what he's here for.

Dear MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE,

Being a big fan of Marvel, a person can tend to branch off to separate characters and titles. From there, questions start to arise. One branch I'm very fond of is your 1940s heroes, the **Invaders**. From that particular branch, I have few questions to ask.

The first is: What happened to: **Agent Axis, Asbestos Lady, Blue Diamond, the Crusaders, the Destroyer, the Kid Commandos, Jack Frost, Master Man, the Scarlet Scarab, the Spirit of '76, Spitfire, the Thin Man, U-Man,** and **Warrior Woman?**

I realize that it might be easier to give every one a new series or limited series than to put them all in one story, which brings me to my next question: How about a "Where Are They Now?" series?

Until life is normal in the Marvel Universe, keep up the good work.

Jarrett Charowsy
#19-624 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, Mb. R3C 0W9
Canada

Well, Jarrett, we're not planning a new series for any of those characters just yet. But that doesn't mean that we'll never know what happened to them after they finished fighting World War II! You can learn what became of that giant, aquatic menace, U-Man, in this year's NEW MUTANTS ANNUAL. And MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #33 will reveal the fates of the Thin Man and Agent Axis in a Captain America story writ

ten by MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE contributing editor, Sholly Fisch, (who'll do anything to plug his own work in these columns) and illustrated by veteran comics artist Jack Sparling.

In the meantime, you might want to track down some back issues to find out what happened to some of the other folks on your list. A few years ago, the saga of the super-strong Blue Diamond ended (at least for the moment) in MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #79. CAPTAIN AMERICA ANNUAL #6 showed us what happened to the Spirit of '76 as the Patriot. And we got a glimpse of the post-War lives of Britain's own Spitfire and the Destroyer 'way back in CAPTAIN AMERICA #253 and #254.

As for the rest, well, we've got Irving Forbush trying to trace their paths and figure out what they're doing today. Why? Because (all together now): "*That's* what he does around here!"

And on that communal note, let's wrap this up and meet some more MARVEL CORRESPONDENTS, those magnanimous males and mademoiselles from across the globe who are looking for folks to swap cards, letters, and Easter Seals with. So why not take a minute to drop one or two of 'em a line? It's easier than wrestling crocodiles, and probably more fun!

ANSWERS TO MARVEL® TRIVIA QUIZ

1. B	4. A	7. C	10. B
2. C	5. C	8. A	11. A
3. B	6. D	9. C	12. C

MARVEL® CORRESPONDENTS

Francis I. Moreloe
120 St. Charles St. #1
Drexel Hill, PA 19026
Age: 16
Favorites: PUNISHER, X-MEN, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

Mike Spring
802 Mimosa Dr.
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
Age: 13
Favorites: X-FACTOR, EXCALIBUR, X-MEN

Russell Bynum
1189 Old Oak Dr.
San Jose, CA 95120
Age: 16
Favorites: SILVER SURFER, CAPTAIN AMERICA, AVENGERS

Jerry Rosario
5918 Beacon Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98108
Age: 16
Favorites: X-MEN, PUNISHER, G.I. JOE

Ronna M. Boujo
712 Banner Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11235
Age: 21
Favorites: SPIDER-MAN, AVENGERS, X-MEN

David Foley
Kilderry, Bray Road, Shankill
County Dublin
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
Age: 16
Favorites: X-MEN, CLASSIC X-MEN, DAREDEVIL

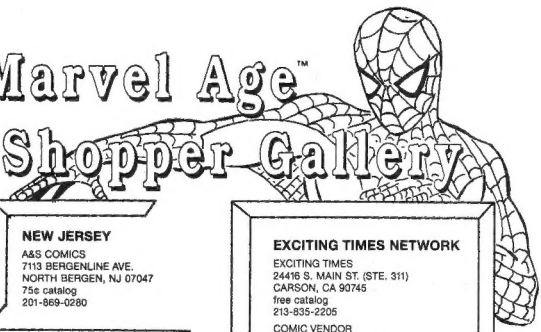
Michael McCarthy
62 Hampson St.
Dracut, MA 01826
Age: 15
Favorites: All Mutant Titles, All Avengers Titles, ALPHA FLIGHT

Ron Blessing
1260 Miriam Pl.
Hillside, NJ 07205
Age: 15
Favorites: X-FACTOR, DAREDEVIL, THOR

Andrew Mikos
2904 Kingsway Rd.
Seffner, FL 33584
Age: 9
Favorites: X-MEN, EXCALIBUR, POWER PACK

Michael Allen
6398 Camden Ave.
San Jose, CA 95120
Age: 15
Favorites: SILVER SURFER, AVENGERS, FANTASTIC FOUR

Marvel Age™ Super Shopper Gallery



CALIFORNIA

ANOTHER WORLD
1615 COLORADO BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90041
free catalog
213-257-7757

GEOFFREY'S COMICS
15530 CRENSHAW
GARDENA, CA 90249
$1.00 Golden Age specialty
213-538-3198

NINTH NEBULA — THE COMIC STORE
11517 BURBANK BLVD.
N. HOLLYWOOD, CA 91601
Marvel list — free
818-509-2901

THE COMIC GALLERY
4224 BALBOA AVE.
SAN DIEGO, CA 92117
$2.00 catalog
619-483-4853

AMAZING COMIX
3443 UNIVERSITY AVE.
SAN DIEGO, CA 92104
$1.00 catalog
619-280-9883

COLORADO

MILE HIGH COMICS, INC.
2151 W. 56TH ST.
DENVER, CO 80221
$1.00 catalog
303-455-2659

ILLINOIS

COMICS FOR HEROES
1702 W. FOSTER (1 blk. W. of Ashland)
CHICAGO, IL 60640
50c catalog
312-769-4745

COMICS FOR HEROES
3939 W. LAWRENCE (1 blk. E. of Pulaski)
CHICAGO, IL 60640
50c catalog
312-478-8585

MASSACHUSETTS

BLAINES COMICS
1 WINTER ST. (352 Bldg. Main St.)
STONEHAM, MA 02180
617-438-5813

MICHIGAN

COMIX CORNER
32004 UTICA ROAD
FRASER, MI 48026
no catalog
313-296-2758

NEW JERSEY

A&S COMICS
7113 BERGENLINE AVE.
NORTH BERGEN, NJ 07047
75c catalog
201-869-0280

NEW YORK

HOWARD M. ROGOFSKY
P.O. BOX 128
ROSEDALE, QUEENS, NY 11422
64 pg. catalog $2.00

PENNSYLVANIA

B.E.M.: THE STORE
622 SOUTH AVE.
PITTSBURGH, PA 15221
no catalog
412-243-2736

TEXAS

DUNGEON BOOK & COMIC STORE
3700 FREDERICKSBURG #105
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78201
$1.50 catalog
1-800-666-3323/512-732-2272

UTAH

NIGHT FLIGHT
COTTONWOOD MALL
4835 S. HIGHLAND DR.
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84117
801-272-8343

VIRGINIA

DAVE'S COMICS
7019E THREE CHOPT ROAD
RICHMOND, VA 23226
catalog: s.a.s.e.
804-282-1121

CANADA

ISLAND FANTASY
#29 MARKET SQ.
560 JOHNSON ST.
VICTORIA, B.C. V8W 3C6
$1.00 catalog
604-381-1134

UNKNOWN WORLDS
725 DANFORTH AVE.
TORONTO, ONT. M4J 1L2, CN.
416-461-1887

FOREIGN — BELGIUM

MEKANIK STRIP
SINT JACOBSMARKT 73
2000 ANTWERPEN
BELGIUM, EUROPE
(03) 234.23.47

EXCITING TIMES NETWORK

EXCITING TIMES
24416 S. MAIN ST. (STE. 311)
CARSON, CA 90745
free catalog
213-835-2205

COMIC VENDOR
18032 CRENSHAW BLVD.
TORRANCE, CA 90504
$1.00 catalog
213-515-2676

THE COMICS GUILD
1111 W. PACIFIC COAST HWY. #2
HARBOR CITY, CA 90710
$1.00 catalog
213-539-2333

COMIC CULT
1047 W. CARSON ST.
TORRANCE, CA 90502
catalog available
213-328-CULT

SINGAPORE

COMICS MART PTE. LTD.
10 JALAN SERENE/02-05
SERENE CENTRE
SINGAPORE 1025
$1.00 catalog
466-4213

OUTER LIMITS
02-28 FAR EAST SHOPPING CENTER
545 ORCHARD ROAD
SINGAPORE 0923
734-2506

NEW ENGLAND COMICS

BOSTON
140A HARVARD AVE.
139A BRIGHTON AVE.
ALLSTON, MA 02134
617-783-1843

BROCKTON
EAST CROSSING PLAZA
(748 CRESCENT ST.)
BROCKTON, MA 02402
508-559-5068

QUINCY
1350 HANCOCK ST.
QUINCY, MA 02169
617-770-1848

NORWOOD
714A WASHINGTON ST.
NORWOOD, MA 02062
617-769-4552

MALDEN
12A PLEASANT ST.
MALDEN, MA 02148
617-322-2404

PLYMOUTH
11 COURT ST.
PLYMOUTH, MA 02360
508-746-8797

For information telling how your store can appear in the "Marvel Age Super Shopper Gallery" please write to:
Rita Smolinski, Marvel Comics, 387 Park Ave. S., N.Y., N.Y. 10016.

SUMMER'S COMING AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS... TWICE AS MUCH FUN IN THE SUN FROM MARVEL®!

FROM MAY THROUGH JULY, FOUR OF MARVEL'S BEST WILL BE COMING OUT TWICE A MONTH!!

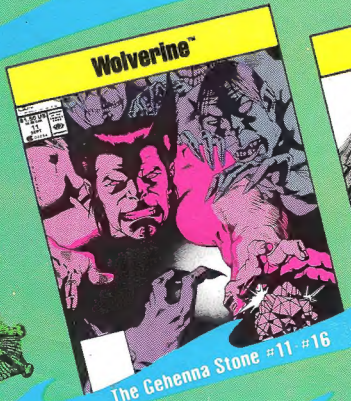
Captain America®

The Bloodstone Hunt #357-#363

The Amazing Spider-Man®

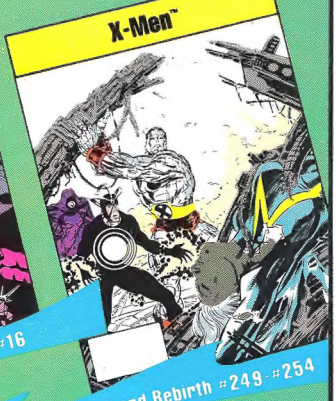
The Assassin Nation Plot #320-#325

Wolverine™



The Gehenna Stone #11-#16

X-Men™



Dissolution and Rebirth #249-#254

TM & © 1989 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved.